

VIA MARSEILLES]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON ARRIVAL OF THE P. & O. MESSAGERIES AND PACIFIC MAILS FROM CHINA JAPAN STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, &c.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS." A WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS.

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Latest Advices.

Ports	OUTWARD.		HOMEWARD.
	From London.	Arrived out.	Received May 24.
JAPAN—Yokohama ...	Feb. 16	Apr. 4	Apr. 12*
Yedo ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
Osaka and Hiogo ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
Hakodadi ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
Nagasaki ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
CHINA—Peking ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
Tien-tsin ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
Chefoo ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
New-chwang ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
Hankow ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
Kiu-kiang ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
Chin-kiang ...	" 16	" 7	" 7*
Shanghai ...	" 23	" 10	" 13
Ningpo ...	" 23	" 10	" 13
Foochow ...	" 23	" 10	" 13
Formosa ...	" 23	" 10	" 13
Amoy ...	" 23	" 10	" 13
Swatow ...	" 23	" 10	" 13
Hong Kong ...	Mar. 9	" 18	" 19
Canton ...	" 9	" 18	" 17
Macao ...	" 9	" 18	" 16
PHILIPPINES—	" 9	" 11	" 16
Manila ...	" 9	" 11	" 16
COCHIN-CHINA—	" 9	" 14	" 23
Saigon ...	" 9	" 14	" 19
SIAM—Bangkok ...	" 9	" 14	" 19
BORNEO—	" 9	" 14	" 19
Labuan ...	" 9	" 14	" 17
Sarawak ...	" 9	" 14	" 6
JAVA—Batavia ...	" 9	" 14	" 23
Samrang ...	" 9	" 14	" 20
Sourabaya ...	" 9	" 14	" 13
MALACCA STRAITS—	" 23	" 23	" 26
Singapore ...	" 23	" 23	" 26
Penang ...	" 16	" 14	" 21
CEYLON—	" 16	" 14	" 21
Galle ...	Apr. 6	" 28	May 2
Colombo ...	" 6	" 28	Apr. 30

* Via San Francisco.

THE MAILS, &c.

The French mail, with the advices dated as above, from China and the Straits Settlements, reached London, via Marseilles, on the 24th inst. There are no later Japan advices than those received per Occidental and Oriental Company's steamer *Belgic*, via San Francisco, on the 22nd inst., anticipating both the present and the next mail. The next inward (P. and O.) mail, which, owing to the change of monsoon, will bring only two days' later advices, viz., from Yokohama 11th, Shanghai 15th, Hong Kong 21st, Singapore 25th inst., is due, via Brindisi, on Monday next, the 4th proximo, and left Galle on the 9th inst., one day in advance of its due date. The telegraph lines to the Far East are working satisfactorily.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Djennah*, arrived May 22.—From Yokohama: Messrs. Thompson, Dresser, Mornat, Joquel, Saragillet, Barthelot, Vauzet, Menieres, Barberot, Bergross. From Shanghai: Messrs. Jancoen, Nissen, Mackenzie, Searle, Kyle, Maltendorf, Miss Imbert, Miss Bell, Miss Winton. From Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Kleinwachter, Messrs. Burton, Bell, Winter, Nordstedt, Goeltz, Miss Kennel. From Saigon: Messrs. Sarda, Jore, Guby, Lane, Andart, Crotte. From Batavia: Mr. McLeod and family, Mr. and Mrs. James, Mr. and Mrs. Brengel, Messrs. Peret, Bressen, Langenberg, Delange, Merisky, Streine, Mahne. From Manila: Messrs. Villarsibo, Du Courtin, Masterry, Montana, Saragoyta, Jordana, Palacios. From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, Messrs. Fish, Rolland, Sweetman, Velaz, Carral, Eudices. From Galle: Messrs. Thomas, Newman, Kelmer, Sydney, Smith. Per steamer *Agamemnon* (Holt's line), due May 30.—From Shanghai: Mrs. Saunders and child, Master McClatchie. From Hong Kong: Mr. John Piader. From Singapore: Mr. Cocker, Mr. Houghton, Miss James, Capt. and Mrs. Van de Broek and five children, Miss Amy.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer *Pora*, from Venice, May 11.—None. From Brindisi, May 14.—To Shanghai: Mr. Lazarus.

Per P. and O. steamer *Australia*, from Southampton, May 17.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Rose, and six second-class passengers. To Singapore: Capt. and Mrs. A. Glen, Mr. Symes. To Colombo: Mr. N. McLeod. To Galle: Mr. C. H. Cameron, three second-class passengers.

Per P. and O. steamer *Siam*, from Brindisi, May 28.—To Singapore: Rev. S. J. Smith.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Priso*, from Marseilles, June 3.—To Yokohama: Mr. and Mrs. Pollard, Messrs. D. S. Bull and Satschnikoff. To Singapore: Justice Livingston Phillips, Mr. G. Clarke. To Colombo: Mr. H. S. Saunders, Mr. Handy-side, Mr. J. H. Tring, Mr. Rollo.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Djennah*, from Marseilles, June 17.—To Colombo: Messrs. A. White, W. L. Bennett, E. Wells.

Summary of News from the Far East.

The miseries of the famine in Shangtung have been increased by the outbreak of a fever which is spreading rapidly. The correspondents of the local papers continue to describe the state of affairs as most disastrous. The funds were getting very low, and there was in many places scarcely sufficient to supply the famishing people with gruel for another month. A further amount of \$1,200 has been forwarded from Japan. Wuhu was formally opened to foreign trade on the 1st April. It is described by a correspondent as a pleasant place, but there was as yet a difficulty in finding quarters. The officials concerned in the Hangchow *cause célèbre*, in which a woman was wrongfully convicted of murdering her husband, have been brought to account, and the district magistrate who gave the first conviction has been sentenced to transportation to the Amoor. The tail-cutting mania has appeared at Peking. At Shanghai the North China Insurance Company have held their meeting, and passed the report and accounts. Several improvements in the roads have been made by the Municipal Council. The public gardens are spoken of as being in a very flourishing state, and an extraordinary birth of calves is considered to speak well for cattle-breeding in China. Forty-two pirates were executed in one day at Canton. Pakhoi was formally opened to trade on the 2nd April. The port is described as being very shallow, so that vessels have to lie a long way off. The combination among the cotton and yarn dealers at Hong Kong was reported to be subsiding. The health of the Colony during 1876 was, according to the Colonial Surgeon's report, good. That official has recorded his opinion that when smoked in moderation, opium is no more harmful than tobacco. The total Revenue for the year 1876 amounted to \$885,308. A marine Court of inquiry on the loss of the *Naworth Castle* has been unable to form an opinion as to the cause of the casualty in consequence of the loss of all books, charts and papers.

From Japan the dates by the present mail have been anticipated *via* America. We give the details of the recent fire in Tokio. From the Straits Settlements we learn that the prevalence of cholera at Singapore, with regard to which such alarming reports were received by last mail, was decreasing. The eight Chinamen who were accused of kidnapping coolies to Deli have pleaded guilty, but sentence has been deferred. The Rajah of Sarawak has had a narrow escape from drowning, while proceeding up the Rejang river in a small steamer. There is a prospect of a good supply of coal being obtained from the new mines in the province of Albay, Philippine Islands.

JAPAN.

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TOKIO.

The *Japan Gazette* gives the details of the fire at Tokio on the 16th April, which was briefly mentioned in last mail's papers. It states:—Tokio has been the scene of another disastrous fire, which has not only destroyed a vast amount of property, but was the cause of several lives being lost, and a number of persons being more or less injured. From the accounts in the native journals, it appears that the fire broke out at about twenty minutes past two A.M. on the 16th April, in a house on lot No. 5, Taidokoro-machi, Kanda. A very strong wind was, unfortunately, blowing at the time, which carried the flames with great rapidity from house to house, until about 1,000 families were rendered homeless. In a large godown situated in Ichome, Yumushima, a large quantity of powder was stored. Whether it was thought that the building was fireproof, or the people had no time to take away the contents, does not appear to be known. However, the fire reached the godown, the powder ignited, and a terrible explosion took place, fairly shaking down some of the houses in the neighbourhood. This explosion was probably the cause of the loss of life. It is to be hoped that, for the sake of the poor people in Tokio, this fire will be the last of the season. The number of houses and the quantity of property destroyed in the capital since the commencement of the winter must be enormous.

The following story, which has been going the round of the native press, is told in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, probably not so much for the sake of the story itself as for its application, which evidently is meant to convey a meaning not exactly apparent to the eye:—"Last year, while Japan was engaged in a controversy with China, bets were made between Englishmen and Frenchmen to the amount of three million yen, the former maintaining that Japan would get the worst of the diplomatic game then being played. Anxious to retrieve the loss they sustained on that occasion, the Englishmen have now made a bet of equal amount that the insurgents will conquer the Imperialists in the present struggle. It may be asked, 'why should the English thus favour the rebels?' The answer is, that when their countrymen fought with the Satsuma men in Kagoshima they were obliged to retreat without capturing even one fort, and they greatly respect the prowess of the Southerners. In fact, they say in their newspapers that all the military power in Japan is vested in the Satsuma clan. We have been told the above by a Chinaman. If it be true, the eyes of Englishmen must be as serviceable as a knot-hole in a piece of wood, when they are looking at the affairs of our country."

The *Nichi-Nichi-shimbun*, referring to the shizoku of Shonai, Yamagata-ken, says:—Various rumours are heard in Tokio. In the city of Tsurugaoka, late Sakai, there is a party consisting of stubborn shizoku. They are intimate friends with the Satsuma men, and respect Saigo as their father or lord, just as the Christians revere the Cross, and the Buddhists adore Amida. When the news of the Kagoshima expedition first came to them, on or about the 23rd February, they became much excited, and held meetings, where they debated whether they should assist their friends or not. But their chiefs ordered them to disperse, and reassemble only at such time as they should be sure that Saigo had taken the lead of the insurgents. They accordingly dispersed, and a force of troops from Sendai arrived in the Yamagata-ken, which was, besides, well guarded by police. But as soon as the news of the deposition of Saigo and the two others was received by them on the 4th March they again became excited, and busied themselves collecting firearms, ammunition and swords. It was then too late for the shizoku to take up arms against the authorities, and the Kencho purchased all the firearms and ammunition in their possession.

CHINA.

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PEKING.

The *Courier's* Correspondent says:—

I think you will be glad to hear that the missionaries labouring in the famine districts in the north of Shantung have already begun to reap their reward. We hear of nearly 200 baptisms and of over a thousand inquirers. Most of these are from regions untouched by the grain distribution. About eight days ago we had an unusually heavy fall of rain for this time of the year. The rain only fell for a few hours in the night, but in the morning all the low-lying places in the streets were flooded. I mentioned some time ago that there had been an incipient tail-cutting. That incident was explained. One youth in the binding office of the American press, seeing a fellow-workman nodding over his desk, was seized with a mischievous desire to apply the shears which lay at hand. Now the man seems to have begun in earnest. It is reported that many persons in the outer city have lost a portion or the whole of the tail; sometimes the loss is sustained in the daytime, and sometimes by night. Some of the people are in a state of terror, believing that the individual who loses his tail will die within a hundred days. Others seem indifferent, saying, "What does it matter if the tail goes?" The inner city is as yet free from this mysterious epidemic, though charms

are being freely distributed amongst the people. More astounding than the loss of tails is the news brought by your last issue that quondam missionaries have been by their presence sanctioning the rites of ancestral worship. How many years ago is it that these gentlemen would have said to any one who prophesied such an event, "Is thy servant a dog that he should do this thing?" If a train leaves the rails it is very apt to come to grief.

TIENTSIN.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* writes under date of April 6:—

I only hear of one item of important or interesting news, viz., the return of the Viceroy Li on the 4th inst. What moves he may propose are yet unknown. A report is in circulation that a nephew of Governor Li has come up from the South, bringing serious charges to his Excellency in regard to irregularities in the management of the C. M. S. N. Co.'s business. I cannot confirm the rumour, however.

I wrote last week of the memorial tablets in honour of Hai Ch'ang Wu. It may interest you to know that twenty of the literati of Tientsin have preferred charges against his son, before the local official, of irregularities in connection with this ceremony and procession.

An honorary tablet has recently been placed, by Imperial decree, in the Hsie-kung-sz, outside the west gate, setting forth the merits of one Hai Ch'ang Wu, a wealthy resident of Tientsin, who died two years ago. He rendered some services to the Government at the time of the rebel invasion, for which the posthumous honours are awarded.

Although the beneficiaries of the soup-kitchens were sent away some time ago, there are still a large number of poor people on the streets.

CHEFOO.

The Rev. H. Corbett, a missionary gentleman employed in the southern part of Shantung, distributing food among the sufferers from the famine, writes:—

The money that has just arrived has gladdened my heart, for it will enable me to alleviate the sufferings of many, and also to save life. Last week I found one family which I had formerly known. The man was unable to rise from his couch; his whole body terribly swollen, death seemed near at hand. His wife, formerly a large stout woman, was emaciated so that her relations would not have known her. Three children were crying for food. Some tea was given to the man, and rice which I had brought with me was cooked as speedily as possible. He ate four large bowls and pleaded for more. He is now able to walk about, and says he will soon be able to work on his farm. This is only one case among many I might mention. A man died from hunger in the village from which I am writing, leaving a starving family. Daily I hear of deaths from starvation. Many have committed suicide when they found they must starve. My plan has been to send reliable men to visit towns and the villages, quietly inquire for those who are entirely destitute, get their names, and then send them word to come at an appointed time to some centre, when I distribute according to the size of the family and the necessity of the case, giving a sum sufficient to help them over the present months. Without some plan closely adhered to, I do not see how any efficient aid could be rendered by distribution. Many have come with doleful stories, but when I sent some one to inquire I found they were not likely to starve, at least there were others more needy. With the funds just received, I shall be able to enlarge the circle and render aid more or less over the greater part of Chimeh. I have written to Mr. Richard to despatch a messenger to me, if he has not sufficient force to reach the greatest number possible with the means at his command. Dr. Devius and several efficient natives have gone, so possibly my services may not be required. The destitution there (Ching-chow Fu) greatly exceeds the general destitution here. I have not enjoyed my food since coming here and seeing the people daily eating the dried potato vine. They grind it and mix it with water, and take it in balls, very much as they would take down pills. Those who can afford a little bean to mix with it get along better. Old people and children soon succumb on this diet; 80 per cent. or more are living on this. I could use an almost unlimited amount of means in aiding the destitute.

Recent reports from the central districts describe the famine as getting more and more intensified as time goes on. Mr. Richard, writing from Cheng-chow-foo, under date the 29th March, says the district magistrate had informed him that their funds were getting very low, and had requested a share of the remittances by foreigners. He said the suffering was very great, and that they have not sufficient money to distribute or supply the gruel long. How long? I asked. Till about the end of the month, he answered; then the starvation will be very great. When saying this, I must say, his eyes filled at the prospect.

HANKOW.

It was anticipated that the Tea season would probably be backward, vegetation generally being fully a fortnight behind

last year. The advance in the value of cess per *cash*, as compared with 1876, was equivalent to about 5 mace a picul. It was generally thought that the funds sent to the Hankow Tea districts were 30 per cent., and to the Ningchow districts 50 per cent. less than last year.

NINGPO.

Antoine, the toll-collector at the bridge of boats, where the riot recently occurred, has been brought up before the Austro-Hungarian Consul, but no evidence being offered against him he was discharged. The bridge had not been reopened to traffic on the 7th April.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 13th April; the French mail from London Feb. 23 was received on the 10th April.

The general news from Shanghai by the present mail is not of a very important character, the most interesting event being the meeting of the North China Insurance Company, a summary of whose report we gave in our last issue. The Chairman, in proposing its adoption, said that beyond congratulating the shareholders on the eminently satisfactory results of the company's business for that period he was not aware that there was much for him to say. But before asking them to pass the report and accounts he thought the following details might prove of interest: The premia collected for the half-year were Tls. 632,950.30, being the largest amount ever yet earned in six months. In the corresponding half-year of 1875 the net premia was Tls. 536,598.17. The total premia for the year 1876 was Tls. 1,190,883, against Tls. 1,039,844 in 1875. The total amount insured in 1876 was Tls. 118,269,728, as compared with Tls. 97,609,491 in 1875. Losses and claims paid during the half-year under review amount to Tls. 253,215.11, of which the most important item is the *Sarpodon's* loss by collision; and, unfortunately for all concerned in her, that vessel has been held to blame. The settlements of claims on the 1876 underwriting account, up to 31st December last, were about 41 per cent. of the premia received, and as a large proportion of the risks have now terminated, only about Tls. 12,000,000 being still running, the result may be considered very satisfactory. As regarded the present year, it was too early to form any definite opinion as to the result of the Company's business, as the London and other distant agency accounts for the first quarter are not to hand; but premia amounting to about Tls. 184,000 appears in the books, and claims paid since 31st December to about Tls. 75,000.

The *North China Daily News* publishes a translation of the last report of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company. The especial wishes and intent of the founders have been quite well understood, but it is interesting to have them openly stated. A tolerably just impression, too, prevailed as to the financial position of the Company, but it is none the less interesting to find this impression confirmed by the actual statement of figures. The accounts refer only to the term ended in September last; and the Company appears then to have had stock valued at Tls. 1,822,737, of which amount only Tls. 685,100 had been raised by shares, the remainder having been obtained by loan—of Government moneys, from native banks, from private individuals, and from the Insurance Company which was some time since created in connection with the Steamer Company. It does not appear that anything is written off for depreciation, and a "deficit" of Tls. 35,000 is shown; still a 5 per cent. dividend is spoken of. The purchase of the S.S.N. Company has been since consummated, and a further advance of Tls. 1,000,000 was obtained from the Government towards that object. Whether any more shares have since been allotted, or whether the remainder of the purchase-money will have also to be raised by loan, is not shown, but in the meantime the proportion of shares shown to be taken up to the capital employed seems small.

Some long-wanted improvements in the Settlement are being made by the Municipal Council. The widening of Nanking-road, at Lee Ching's corner, is in a fair way of being completed, and a further move is to be made to obtain the necessary slice off the lower portion of the same block, at the corner of Honan-road. Messrs. Dent and Co. made an offer to sell a strip of land widening the Kiukiang-road for Tls. 1,500, but it was declined by the Council. The wheelbarrow strike seems to have come to an end, and licenses for over 2,000 barrows have been taken out.

From the paper above named we take the following items:—

The two Chinese gunboats having on board the late Tartar General of Fokien and his family and attendants left on the 10th April for the North. At starting the usual salute was fired.

All the different Consular flags were half-mast on that day, in respect to the memory of Colonel Fukobara, the late military attaché to the Japanese Legation, who was killed while bravely leading a charge against the rebels in Japan. He was well-known and much respected, and the news of his death was received with great regret.

The third annual Flower Show is advertised to be held in H.B.M.'s Consular grounds during the second or third week in May.

We notice that a second pair of crows are building a nest on the P. and O. flagstaff—on the top of the lower mast. On Saturday evening they attracted great attention, being so tame as to break twigs from the low trees in the E-wo compound and convey them to the nest, heedless of several passers-by who lingered to watch their operations.

An unusual event in natural history has occurred at "The Farm." One of Mr. Ferguson's Shanghai-bred Ayrshire cows gave birth to two bull calves, weighing together 121½ lbs., one being 72 lbs. and the other 49½ lbs. The biography of the mother is somewhat remarkable. Christened after Fielding's heroine, she is appropriately named "Amelia." She was born in the spring of 1872, having been bred by Mr. W. Lent, and has calved four times, all her offspring being bulls, and she is besides a most prolific milker. Altogether, this speaks well for cattle-breeding in Shanghai.

Most of our readers are aware that the sight presented by the peach orchards in the neighbourhood of the Loong-hwa pagoda at this time of the year is exceedingly beautiful; and very many, during the last few days, have visited the neighbourhood. The whole country is covered with trees, which are now in perfect fulness of blossom.

The new French Gas Shares offered for sale at auction were taken at seventy-one, which is exactly the equivalent price of the shares in the English Company.

From the *Celestial Empire* we take the following:—

The demolition of old King-kee (Augustin Heard and Co.'s hong) has, we notice, been stopped. It is said that this has been done by order of a gentleman who holds a lien on the property.

The case against William Henry Shaw, charged with stealing Tls. 5,800 belonging to his employer, Mr. Francis, at Kinkiang, again came before the Supreme Court on the 11th April, but, on the application of Mr. Rennie, it was again adjourned for a week.

The appearance of the Public Garden just now is such as to justify the highest eulogiums. During the last week the weather has been moist and hot, and however disagreeable this may be to human beings the effect upon the vegetable kingdom is undeniably most favourable. The grass is now beginning to look charmingly green and soft, while the corner at the Northern end—"Poet's Corner" we have heard it called, from its seclusion and beauty—is a perfect picture. The flowerbeds which decorate the lawn are really a brilliant sight, some of them gorgeous with tulips, scarlet, yellow, and striped, while others are all ablaze with magnificent clusters of double hyacinths, which are now in the fullest bloom. These are of every hue, from white and the most delicate pink to pale purple and dark, affording an exquisite contrast to the vivid verdure with which they are surrounded, as in a frame. The belt of rare shrubs which lines the lawn and shelters it from the north-easterly wind presents also a beautiful appearance, and gives a perfect finish to the whole, while the effect is heightened by a few beautiful little trees growing in wooden stands, which are carefully shielded from the attacks of the profane by fine wires, over which, by the way, it is by no means impossible to come to grief during an evening stroll. Some of the *camellias*, too, are extremely handsome, and the garden in its present aspect reflects the very highest credit upon the gentlemen who have undertaken its superintendence.

HANGCHOW.

A correspondent sends to the *North China Herald* an account of the trial of a Chinese criminal, which can hardly be surpassed by the most ridiculous tales narrated of African savages. It occurred some time ago, but has not the less interest, as illustrating some of the views and practices of the rulers of the people. A secretary attached to one of the yamens in the city was mysteriously murdered in a lonely place on one of the city hills. Every effort was made to discover the murderer, but not the least clue as to the motive or the agent of the deed could be obtained. The officials then concluding that the case was too hard for those whose authority was confined to the visible world, had recourse to those who took cognisance of the affairs of the invisible world; that is to say, the gods of the city.

The trial occurred in one of the temples on the city hill, and the bench of judges consisted of the criminal judge of the province, who sat in the centre, the most honourable seat; on his right hand, the seat of honour, sat the god which ranks with the governor of a provincial city; on his left, the governor of the city. These three sat on the platform. In front of them, the two district magistrates, with the two corresponding district gods, sat at a table. In each case the officer of the invisible world occupied the seat of honour on the right hand. A number of official runners were in attendance. The trial took place at night, as it is said the officers of the invisible world would not serve in the day time. The manner of conducting the trial was truly characteristic. Several strawmen were prepared and brought before their honour, to represent the criminal, and these were examined with torture. The lictors were ordered to beat the straw criminals to make them confess. But as they were incapable of making articulate sounds, the officials depended upon the drawing of the lot for an expression of their opinion and feelings in the matter. So, after a good beating, the lot was drawn according to the common method in the temple, but without giving any satisfac-

tory result, and the affair is now cited as a case in which neither the officers of the visible nor the invisible world were able to secure justice, and hence the uselessness of appealing to them.

At the quarterly meeting of the native Christians, held here a few days ago, the case of the sufferers from famine in the North was presented by the leader, and a collection was taken up, which amounted to a little more than a hundred dollars.

HONG KONG.

Dates by this mail extend to the 19th April; the French mail from London March 9 arrived out on the 18th April.

The health of the Colony, according to the report of the Colonial Surgeon, continues satisfactory. Dr. Ayres states that there has been a slight increase in the mortality among the European community as compared with the previous year, but the health of the residents has, on the whole, been good. The health of the Police and of the Military—more especially that of the latter—during the year exhibits a decided improvement. Last year only 563 patients were admitted to the military hospital, and two deaths occurred, compared with 716 admitted and nine deaths in 1875. The Regiment is a fresh out, but this fact certainly does not account for the improvement altogether, since 1875 showed a decrease in sickness and mortality over 1874, and the 80th Regiment was stationed here in those years. The main cause of the decrease is therefore ascribed to improved drainage.

The *Daily Press* in commenting on the above-named reports, observes that when remarking on the health of the prisoners in Victoria Gaol the Colonial Surgeon touches on the opium smoking question. He avers that the effects of the drug have been greatly exaggerated. It was formerly the rule to put prisoners addicted to the habit under special treatment, allowing them a certain quantity of opium per diem and decreasing the amount every day, at the same time using tonics and stimulants, such as gin and quinine, to support them. Dr. Ayres has found, by experience, that there is no necessity for this indulgence, and in very few cases has he permitted either opium or gin to be given. He maintains that opium smoking has very little permanent effect on the system, and can as readily be stopped, with no more harm to the subject, as tobacco smoking. An opium smoker, he points out, consumes but a small quantity of the drug, and its power is not exhausted by one smoking, as the ashes are re-prepared over and over again. The conclusion he arrives at is, that when smoked in moderation opium is no more harmful than tobacco, and that the effects of opium smoking and opium eating have been confounded together in the minds of the British public.

The returns of the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the year 1876 have been issued. The total revenue was \$885,308.54. The receipts from land revenue amount to \$136,413.40, showing a decrease of \$11,083.06 on the previous year; rents, exclusive of lands, amount to \$61,446.10, an increase of \$3,799.31; payments for licenses amount to \$179,389.98, to which the opium monopoly contributes \$133,000, \$4,000 less than in the previous year, while the net decrease on all licenses amounts only to \$3,510.02. Taxes amount to \$288,354.94, showing a decrease of \$2,277.69. Postage also shows a decrease of \$2,631.49, the receipts from this source being \$53,760.01. Fees of office amount to \$72,161.81, showing an increase of \$8,420.40, to which increase light dues contribute \$4,959.28. The remaining receipts from various sources make up the total given above. The largest portion of this sum is of course absorbed by the salaries of the various officials, from the Governor downwards. \$176,623.61 is set down for the police, being \$2,796.56 less than in 1875. The expenditure on works and buildings, roads, streets, and bridges, amount to \$190,954.57, an increase of \$39,092.20 on that of 1875. The military contribution also shows an increase of \$7,949.99, the amount of the contribution being \$105,855.53, as against \$97,905.54 for the previous year, which, of course, is caused by loss in exchange. The total expenditure amounts to \$902,500.21, being an increase of \$32,677.70 on that of 1875, and \$17,191.67 more than the total revenue.

The combination among the Chinese Cotton and Yarn dealers, which has attracted so much attention, was breaking up, and several of the Hongers were beginning to commence transactions secretly; but were soon discovered, and the Canton Cotton Guild forthwith passed sentence of excommunication on the recalcitrant firms, forbidding any of its members to have transactions with them under heavy penalties. According, however, to the *Press*, the rebellious hongers openly defied the Guild, and carried on business with the foreign merchants on the old terms without any effort at concealment. This defection from its ranks had evidently had a great effect on the Guild, for it was trying a new policy. By its subsequent action coercion was virtually admitted to be a failure. It empowered the commission agents to do business on the old terms—that is, payment for goods by notes—on condition that foreign merchants would make an allowance of half per cent. Several wily attempts, too, were made to induce one or two of the foreign firms to give way by the use of specious promises. These overtures had, however, all been steadily refused, and the foreign merchants had wisely maintained a firm, dignified, and unanimous stand on the subject. They co-operated to resist the audacious attempt

at coercion on the part of native dealers, and intend to carry it through. Indeed, they were bound, both by motives of self-respect and self-interest to show themselves unyielding on this question, as it was well known that the native dealers in opium and piece goods were watching the issue of the struggle in the cotton trade with the keenest interest, and that were the Cotton Guild to gain any concession it would have the certain and immediate effect of causing other native guilds to adopt the same line of conduct.

A marine Court of Inquiry has been held at the Harbour Office to investigate the circumstances attending the loss of the *Naworth Castle*. The Court was composed as follows:—Mr. May, president; Captain Thomsett, harbour-master; Mr. McMurdo, Government marine surveyor; Mr. Liustead, unofficial justice of the peace; and Captain Edmunds, master of the P. and O. steamship *Malacca*. The following was the finding:—

"We find that the British barque *Naworth Castle*, official number 58,116,354 tons, of Sunderland, left Swatow, in China, on the 13th February last with a cargo of sugar, bound to Falmouth, England, for orders; and that the vessel was totally lost on the Bombay Shoal, Parcels Group, China Sea, at about 0.45 a.m. of the 16th February. The log books, charts, and all other papers connected with the navigation of the ship having been lost, the Court is unable to form an opinion as to the cause of this casualty, beyond that in two and a half days the ship was set about one hundred miles to the westward of what was supposed to be her position. We find that the master, Henry P. Weppner, was washed overboard and drowned soon after the vessel struck, and that a seaman named William Scott was also drowned in endeavouring to swim to a boat from the ship. The remainder of the crew were taken on board a Chinese junk from the boat into which they had got, and were ultimately landed at or near Leong-soy, on the S.E. side of the island of Hainan, whence they were transferred to the recently opened port of Hoihow, and from there sent to Hong Kong by the British Consul."

The police-station at Hung Ham, near the Kowloon Docks, has been attacked by thieves whilst the European constable in charge was out investigating a daring robbery of large sheets of iron-plating from the docks. It appears that on his return to the station he found the Indian constables asleep and his quarters ransacked of all he was possessed of.

The following account, duly certified, of the average amount of bank-notes in circulation in Hong Kong during the month ending 29th March is published in the *Gazette*:—

Banks.	Average Amount.
Oriental Bank Corporation...	\$269,530
Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China ...	653,836
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China ...	415,632
Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation...	1,637,945
Total ...	\$2,976,993

Several local appointments, &c., are gazetted. The Administrator has recognised provisionally Don Edward Toda as Vice-Consul for Spain; Mr. A. Falconer has been appointed provisionally Assistant Superintendent of the Hong Kong Fire Brigade; and Mr. McEwen, Assistant Harbour-master, has been provisionally appointed to act until further notice as Deputy Superintendent of Police, vice Mr. Creagh, appointed Acting Superintendent.

From a return in the *Gazette* it appears that the largest number of prisoners in the gaol on the last day of any week during 1876 was 563, on November 12th, and the smallest, 347, on February 20th. The largest number of Europeans confined in the gaol at any one time was 75, and the smallest 30. On January 2nd the European prisoners numbered 63, and on December 31st only 30. The largest number of female prisoners (Chinese or coloured) at one time was 38 and the smallest 10.

CANTON.

The *Daily Press* Correspondent writes:—

"A proclamation posted up in the Viceroy's yamen says that forty-nine pirates were to have been executed at the execution ground by the South Gate on the 13th April, but that only forty-two suffered, seven of them having appealed for a new trial.

Notice has been issued to the effect that the mourning for the late Emperor Tung-chi ceased on the 13th instant, since which date officials have been allowed to don their usual costume.

The Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor have re-opened the Yuet San and Yuet Wah schools in person, when they addressed the students and examined the essays.

On the afternoon of the 10th April the Viceroy and suite inspected the Arsenal at the South Gate. He appeared to be quite satisfied with the condition of the guns, machinery, &c., and expressed himself to that effect.

The other day a bride, accompanied by her servant, while on her way in a chair to meet her husband, in the Sam Shuey district, fell in with a band of robbers, who carried off both mistress and maid, and now demanded a heavy ransom for their release.

PAKHOI.

By the arrival of the Chinese gunboat *Fei Hoo* the *Daily Press* received the following information anent the new port of Pakhoi:—

The port was formally opened on the 2nd instant by Mr. McKean, the Commissioner of Customs appointed to Pakhoi, and salutes were fired by the Chinese gunboats *Fai Hoo* and *Shen-chi*. The British gunboat *Fly* arrived with H.B.M. Consul on board, and all vessels were dressed. The port is very much like Hoihow, being very shallow, and vessels are compelled to lie a long way off. There is a small river running into the bay, which is navigable by junks, but it is dry at low tide. The British Consul was compelled to remain on board the gunboat *Fly*, as there was no suitable house ready for Europeans to live in. The principal products of the port are said to be sugar, betel nut, and spice. Game, in the shape of snipe, partridges, and wild ducks, is plentiful and cheap, and fowl of all kinds are cheap. There is a large city across the bay, about seven miles from Pakhoi, noted for its pagoda, having a large tree growing up its centre, with its branches shooting out of the windows. The port of Pakhoi is much used by junks from Hong Kong and Amoy. Pakhoi and the islands near are noted for the presence of great numbers of French priests, all of whom dress like the natives, and wear the queue; one of them resided on one of the islands for eighteen years. The Chinese gunboat *Fai-Hoo* left H.M.S. *Fly* and the Chinese gunboat *Suitsing* in port when she departed. She passed a French paddle-wheel gunboat, name unknown, evidently from Hoihow, steaming into Pakhoi.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

MANILA.

A correspondent in dilating on the various and promising sanitary and other improvements going on in the town of Sooloo itself observes that:—However antagonistic the idea of free trade in that quarter may be to the views and interests of a few, yet the many will see that Sooloo may yet become of great importance to Spain in many respects, if only a liberal care be taken. The liberty of trading might be restricted to a few ports, and of course nothing contraband of war admitted into the Archipelago until a proper pacification and due submission takes place among the still recalcitrant chiefs. The general population are believed to be favourable to the supremacy of the Spaniards, who proceed on a humane and liberal plan among all who have peaceable intentions. Let free trade have a fair trial at first, and then see what is to be done in the way of imposts. Such a plan will be in accordance with the advance of the age we live in, at all events.

The works at the coal mines of Sugud, in the province of Albay, were in a forward condition by last accounts, and there were hopes that shortly abundance of good coal will be extracted therefrom.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

The *Courier de Saigon* publishes a notification in which the President of the Agricultural and Industrial Committee informs those who desire to send goods to the Exposition Universelle in Paris next year, that in consequence of the receipt of a despatch stating that articles for exhibition must be sent without delay, they will, not as was intended, be first shown in Saigon. It is also notified that the fact that the Messageries steamers will touch at Colombo during the N.E. monsoon will not in any way alter the dates fixed for the other points in their voyages.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

The *Siam Weekly Advertiser* contains the Custom House return of the exports from Bangkok for the month of March last. They amounted in value to \$759,272, and the principal articles exported were as follows:—

Rice	...	piculs	316,679	...	\$581,261
Tin	...	"	992	...	22,800
Sugar	...	"	2,539	...	18,024
Pisalat	...	"	...	...	17,161
Salt Fish	...	"	...	...	15,807
Plahaang	...	"	...	...	13,076
Teak planks	...	"	...	...	12,100
Buffaloe Hides	...	"	1,679	...	11,949
The export of Rice was to the following destinations:—					
Hong Kong	...	piculs	193,081	...	\$347,085
Singapore	...	"	84,326	...	157,060
Java	...	"	26,166	...	57,916
China	...	"	12,223	...	18,340
Coast	...	"	313	...	860

Piculs 316,979 \$581,261

The tin went all to Hong Kong, the sugar, plahaang, salt fish, and buffaloe hides mostly to Singapore, the pisalat to Java, and the teak planks to India.

There have been in the past week the ceremonies attending the cremation of three of the Royal family—Phra Ong Chow Chai Klang (son of the King), Phra Ong Chow Butsabong Buk Ban (princess), Phra Ong Chow Unakan (prince), (the two latter

children of Pra Chom Klaw). It is customary to give many presents at the time of cremation. This year the publications of the several printing offices have been bought as presents for the occasion. It is an admirable idea, and must lead to the preparing of books suitable for presents.

The last editor of the late *Hong Kong Times* has become the American Vice-Consul at Bangkok.

BORNEO.

SARAWAK.

The *Surawak Gazette* of the 16th April has an article upon the falling off in the production of rice in the Principality, and attributes it to the high prices of raw produce which has led to the abandonment of rice-planting for other cultivations and manufactures.

H. H. the Rajah, accompanied by Messrs. Gueritz and Deshon, started in [the *Aline* on the 8th April on a visit to the Rejang river, and on the 10th when going up the river to Balleh Fort, in a small steamer, the *Ghita*, a heavy fresh was encountered near the Fort; the *Ghita* was driven on the bank helpless against the torrent, and the whole party had a most narrow escape from drowning. H. H. the Rajah was swept overboard, and a whirlpool sucked him under the steamer, but with great exertion he contrived to get his head above the water and was rescued by a boat from the Fort. The rest were saved by other boats manned by Dyaks and Chinese, and after some time the *Ghita* was swept into smooth water, minus funnel, bulwarks, awnings, stanchions, &c., and otherwise much battered by huge trunks of trees brought down by the fresh.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

SINGAPORE.

The present French mail brings advices from this port to the 26th April; the French mail from London March 23 was received on the 23rd April. We take the following items of intelligence from the *Straits Times*:—

This week will see two homeward mail steamers despatched from here within two days' interval of each other, owing to the change of monsoon. The M.M. steamer *Djemnah* left Hong Kong at noon on the 19th April, and the P. and O. steamer *Geelong* at noon on the 21st.

We learn that the general agents of the E. and A. Company have received a telegram from the Brisbane agents, dated the 18th April, to the effect that the *Normanby* had arrived off Cooktown on the 17th April, all being well on board, but, notwithstanding, all passengers for Queensland ports were to go into quarantine, while the steamer and her Sydney passengers were allowed to proceed south without any detention. H.E. Sir William Jervois, who took his passage by the *Normanby*, from here for Sydney, was, therefore, not quarantined or detained in Queensland.

When the case of the eight Chinamen who are accused of being concerned in the attempt at kidnapping coolies to Deli was called in Court, a *nolle prosequi* was entered by the consent of the Attorney-General on two of the three counts of the indictment under which they had been charged, and Mr. Vaughan, who appeared for the prisoners, advised them to plead guilty on the third count. The Attorney-General recommended the prisoners to mercy on political grounds, the Government having lately introduced a Bill under which protection would be afforded to the coolies, and by which they should be able to come directly into contact with Government officials. His lordship having passed some severe censures upon the conduct of the Dutch planter concerned, on whose behalf Mr. Donaldson watched the case, postponed sentence.

We learn from official sources that only two deaths from cholera have been reported within the last two days, making thirty deaths in all from that disease, in its sporadic form, officially recorded within the last twenty-seven days, and that the Medical authorities consider the sanitary state of the town to have recently improved, and to be on the whole satisfactory, or not, at all events, affording any reason for alarm or uneasiness. It is only right to point out that while official statements differ widely on this cholera question from the general impressions prevalent, the former are much more likely to be substantially correct, especially as the authorities have been put on the alert by the general alarm recently felt and which found expression in these columns. It will be acknowledged that four deaths from cholera in twenty-four hours or so in connection with employes of this office, and authenticated reports of other deaths among the sale class, was sufficiently alarming, to say nothing of the reports with regard to the Chinese, Malays, Klings and other Natives.

We understand that at a meeting of the building committee of the Presbyterian Church three tenders were received and opened for the building of a new church. Mr. P. Nuy's tender was \$24,500, Wong Ah Hock's was \$22,500, and Messrs. Riley, Hargreaves, and Co.'s was \$19,500. The latter tender was accepted, and Mr. E. J. Wells, C.E., one of the committee, ha

kindly offered his services gratuitously to superintend the erection of the church. Messrs. Riley, Hargreaves, and Co. provide an experienced clerk of the works at their own cost. The site or the church is at the foot of Fort Canning, opposite the Dhoobie Green, and was granted by his Excellency Sir Andrew Clarke, when Governor of the Straits. The design of the church is after the Italian style, and will when completed be an ornament to the town. It is expected the church will be open for public service by the end of the year.

A correspondent in Sunglie Ujong, under date 16th April, sends us the following account of a remarkable encounter between a boa, some fifteen feet long, and a bull-dog, belonging to the Resident, Captain Murray—the same dog, unless we are mistaken, who distinguished himself by charging with his master and the 10th across the swamp when Paron stockade was stormed in December 1875. The boa had been confined in a cage for some days, but having been disposed of to a Chinese doctor for its gall, to be used as medicine, he was hauled out of the cage on the 16th to be taken away. "The boa was immediately attacked by the dog, who had formerly had a passage of arms with him. For some time the boa was quiet, and only now and then made a snap. The dog got bold at last, and seized the snake by the head, but the tables were soon turned. In an instant the boa caught the dog by the upper lip and held firmly on, the dog backing vainly and trying to get away. In less than half a minute the whole of the snake's body had enfolded the dog's in so close an embrace that the head only could be seen. Before choppers could be procured, blood was gushing from the dog's mouth, and I heard his bones give one crack, and it was only by chopping the boa to pieces that we saved the dog. I found on examination that the boa has very strong, sharp, recurved teeth, not only in the jaws, but also in the palate bones, which accounts for the dog being unable to extricate himself in the first instance, for the teeth being like the "Vacune beech" of South Africa, the more he struggled backward the tighter he was held by the boa. I may add for the information of the friends of the dog that he is none the worse for his squeeze."

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

CARTER—On the 20th May, at Shanghai, the wife of W. H. Carter, of a son.
CLARKE—On the 26th March, at Bangkok, the wife of F. S. Clarke, of the Borneo Company, of a daughter.
HASLWOOD—On the 15th May, at Yokohama, the wife of A. H. C. Haslwood, of a son.
JENSON—On the 21st May, at Clarence-villas, Hayter-road, Brixton-rise, the wife of Hans P. P. Jenson, of a daughter.
WHITE—On the 3rd April, at Ilunkow, the wife of F. W. White, Commissioner of Customs, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

DOVEY—TODD—On the 23rd May, at 3, Palmerston-road, Grange, Edinburgh, by the Rev. Horatio Bonar, D.D., assisted by the Rev. John Edward Dovey, Alexander Morton Dovey, Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, London, to Dora, second daughter of the late Thomas Todd, of Booth's-green, Edinburgh.
ROBBINS—DORMO—On the 26th March, at the United States Consulate, Bangkok, in the presence of the Hon. D. B. Sickett, U.S. Consul, by the Rev. J. N. Culbertson, Robert Oliver Robbins, of Boston, Mass., U.S.A., to Carolina Dormo, of Bangkok.

DEATHS.

BELL—On the 16th May, at Marseilles, on his passage home, W. H. Bell, late of the Hong Kong Daily Press, aged 16 years, deeply lamented.
MORRIS—On the 7th April, at Manila, Maria Del Socorro de Oles, wife of Samuel J. Morris, aged 24 years.
TOTTENHAM—On the 22nd May, at Colombo, Ceylon, aged 39, Loftus Pononby Tottenham, youngest son of the late Charles Tottenham, of Mac Murrough, county Wexford, and grandson of the late Sir James Kearney, K.C.H., of Blanchville, county Kilkenny.

Market Reports.

(For dates see first page.)

EXPORTS.

MANILA.—Messrs. Smith, Bell and Co.'s Circular says:—Business in produce has been moderately active since our last and a slight decline in freights and in exchange has tended to facilitate operations somewhat. Sugar: Our market has been very firm, and sales during the fortnight amount to about 25,000 piculs, extra at \$5.37½ to \$5.43½ per picul and about 10,000 piculs superior at \$5 per picul. More Sugar is still wanted at about these rates, but dealers are anything but anxious sellers, as it is now certain that the deficiency in the Manila crop will amount to something like 300,000 piculs, and considerable fears are entertained for the coming one, the want of grain greatly interfering with the planting of the new cane. We are glad to say, however, that this deficiency will just be about made up in the Visayas, as the crops there are likely to exceed those of the past year by close upon 250,000 piculs, and the coming one, so far, are very promising. Unclayed: The arrivals from Tsal during the fortnight amount to 20,000 piculs, part of which has been delivered under contract at \$3.18½ per picul, and the balance has been sold as it arrived at \$3.06½ to \$3 per picul. At the last named price there is only a partial demand, but, so far it has not been practicable to buy at a lower rate. No llo and Cebu advices extend to the 12th and 13th instant respectively, and in both markets prices were slightly easier. In the latter market, however, superior was being bought up for shipment to the former one. Hemp: The market has been an advancing one, and last sales have been at \$5.43½ per picul (£22 4s. 2d.) for Sorsogon and \$5.31½ per picul (£21 15s. 2d.) for current. Cebu is being held for \$5.37½ per picul (£21 19s. 8d.) The advance in price has principally been caused

by the decline in freights and in exchange, but stocks are also reduced to a low point, and the article is reported scarce in the principal producing districts. Sales of Quilot have been made at \$6.25 to \$6.50 per picul (£26 to £26 17s. 10d.), and for Lupis \$8 to \$8.25 per picul (£32 5s. 8d. to £33 3s.) has been offered and refused. Coffee: A good demand exists for the article and all that has arrived has been readily placed at \$20.12½ to \$21 per picul £74 17s. 9d. to £78 0s. 5d.

BATAVIA.—Messrs. Piet and Co.'s Circular says:—Coffee, Java: A parcel of West India preparation or Blue Bean has changed hands at Samarang at £59 per picul, but of ordinary preparation we have not heard of any sales. The Government will sell publicly during the year 100,000 piculs. Padang: The usual quarterly auction was held at Padang on the 28th March, when 19,400 piculs, No. 1, averaged £60.44 per picul and 800 piculs Triago £28.01 per picul. Refining Sugar: The market has been more active and purchasers have shown some inclination to meet the views of planters. Grocery Sugars: Nothing has been done as yet in these descriptions for the season now fast approaching.

SINGAPORE.—Messrs. Boustead and Co.'s Report says:—Tin: During the fortnight about 3,400 piculs have been settled for the States at \$20.25 to \$19.70, closing at \$20. For America there is still some inquiry, but for England and China there is no demand whatever. Supplies continue to come in slowly, and unless prices improve we do not look for any increase. Gambier: With advices of a considerable advance in England the price has rapidly advanced to \$4.75, at which it closes; from \$4.40 to closing quotation 1,000 tons have been settled. Supplies are coming in very slowly in consequence of continued drought, and if demand for England continues we expect dealers will be able to exact a further advance. Cube Gambier: About 3,000 piculs No. 1 have been settled at \$5.70 to \$5.75, and dealers now decline to sell further. No transactions in No. 2, which continues very scarce. Cutch: 2,000 boxes settled "to arrive" at \$5.52½ to \$5.50. Further lots are expected to come to market within a month, and we expect to see prices decline. Black Pepper: There has been very little demand, and prices have fluctuated considerably; prices opened at \$3.27½, but rapidly declined, with few transactions, to \$7.87½ at close, however, with a slight demand for India, the price has advanced to \$3.5; the transactions reported are only 2,600 piculs; supplies have been very small, and it is this that has caused the advance at close. White Pepper: About 1,300 piculs settled at \$15½ to 14½, according to quality; these figures show a decline of 25c. to 50c. per picul on previous quotations. Bonthyme Coffee: 120 piculs settled at \$21½, and about 50 piculs remain, for which same price is asked, but at this there are now no buyers; no important supplies of Bonthyme can be expected for two months or so. Nutmegs: About 200 piculs in shell have been settled, and market is now bare; no further arrivals are expected for about three weeks; we quote \$73 to 72 for good 110's. Mace: Considerable supplies have come in, and good quality has been sold at \$54.

SAIGON.—Messrs. Kaltenbach, Engler and C.'s Market Report says:—Rice: The hopes entertained when issuing our last report as to a further decline have not been realized, and despite the unfavourable advices to hand from China, prices do not show any change of consequence on last quotations, and continue to rule high, owing to the paucity of stocks and a considerable falling off perceptible in the receipts from the interior. Cotton: Uncleaned, which remains in very small supply, has advanced to \$5.70 per picul. No. 1 cleaned being quoted \$6.10 and No. 2 do. \$9 per picul. Fish: Arrivals have been liberal and hence all kinds have considerably declined in value. Hides: Buffalo remain quoted as before \$7.90 per picul whilst both scored and unprepared Cow have receded to \$17.50 and \$14.25 per picul respectively.

EXCHANGES, &c.

[For dates see first page.]
ON LONDON.

At	Bank Bills.	Credits.	Documentary.
Yokohama, 6 m.s.	4s. 0½d.	4s. 1d.	4s. 1½d.
Shanghai " " " " " "	5s. 5d. to 5s. 5½d.	5s. 5½d.	5s. 6d.
Canton " " " " " "			
Hong Kong " " " " " "	4s. 0½d.	4s. 0½d.	4s. 0½d.
Manila " " " " " "			
Singapore " " " " " "	4s. 1d.	4s. 1½d.	4s. 1½d.
Penang " " " " " "	4s. 1½d.	4s. 1½d.	4s. 2d.
Manila " " " " " "	4s. 3½d.	4s. 3½d.	4s. 3½d.

MISCELLANEOUS.

	At Shanghai.	At Hong Kong.
Bills on India " " " " " "	Rs. 309 to 310½	Rs. 232 (nominal)
" " " " " " " " " "	271 to 274 dis.	
Bar silver " " " " " "	Tls. 111.25	8½ prem. (nominal)
Mexican dollars " " " " " "	Tls. 74.55	9½ prem. (nominal)

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Shanghai Dock Company, Tls. 200.
Shanghai Gas Company, Tls. 112.
Steam Tug and Boat Association, nominal.
French Gas Company, Tls. 71.
Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$540.
North China Insurance Company, Tls. 910.
Yangtze Insurance Association, Tls. 635.
Union Insurance Society, —.
China Traders Company (Limited), \$3,000.
China Fire Insurance Company, Tls. 149.
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Tls. 57.
Chinese Imperial Loan, £108.
Pootung Dock Company, Tls. 50.
China Coast Steam Navigation Company, Tls. 70.

HONG KONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank 2½ per cent. prem.
Hong Kong Gas Company, \$75 per share, nominal.
Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, 35 per cent. discount.
China Traders' Insurance Company, \$3,200 per share.

Hotel Shares, \$35 per share.
 Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, 11 per cent. div.
 Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$349 per share.
 Union Insurance Society of Canton, — per share.
 China Fire Insurance Company, \$147 per share.
 Chinese Insurance Company, \$210 per share.
 Chinese Imperial Loan, £103 (exchange 4s. 11d.).
 Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, 1s. 3d. per share ex div.

SINGAPORE SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Tanjong Pagar Dock Shares (\$100 paid), \$130 (nominal).
 New Harbour Dock Company (\$100 paid), par.
 Singapore Gas Company (£5 paid), par.
 Galena Mining Company (\$50 paid), \$30.
 Singapore Steamship Company (Limited), par.

The latest telegrams report the rate for six months' bank bills at Singapore 4s. 1d., Hong Kong 4s. 6d., at Shanghai 6s. 5d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London, May 22, Argentine (str.), Candia (str.).

At SHANGHAI.—From Sydney, April 7, Jessie McDonald; 8, John Watson; from New York, May 23, John Nicholson; from London, 23, Soindia (str.).

At FOCHOW.—From London, May 17, Fleura Castle (str.).

At HONG KONG.—From Newcastle, N.S.W., April 11, Glengairn; 12, Thomas Lord, Leucadia; 13, Albert Russell; 14, Evening Star; 16, Killarney (str.); 17, Arabella; from San Francisco, April 16, Mary Whitridge; May 23, Laura; from Cardiff, April 15, Thingvalla; from Hamburg, May 23, Iris; from London, May 23, Chinaman, Volga (str.).

At SAIGON.—From Havre, March 30, Marie Anjer; from Newcastle, N.S.W., April 12, Peyberland, Emeraldin.

At BATAVIA.—From Fremantle, April 4, Agnes; from Newcastle, 15, Emilie Marie; from Glasgow, 15, County of Stirling; from Nieuwe Diep, May 18, Princess Amalia (str.).

At MANILA.—From Glasgow, April 8, Cosmopolitan; from Cardiff, 9, Hermaun.

At SINGAPORE.—From Fremantle, April 20, Majorian; from Rotterdam, 24, Windsbrandt; from Cardiff, 23, Vermont; May 22, Southern Queen; 24, Walls Castle, Nancy Pundleton, Bertie; from Glasgow, April 24, Annie Main; from Newport, May 24, Timour; from Hamburg, May 24, Neptun, Galatea (str.); from Liverpool, April 23, Gloria (str.); May 24, Edinburgh Castle, Priam (str.); from London, April 20, Stad Amsterdam (str.); May 23, Gordon Castle (str.).

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—For Falmouth, May —, Laurel.

From HANKOW.—For London, May —, Glencagles (str.), Loudon Castle (str.).

From SHANGHAI.—For London, April 11, Antenor (str.).

From HONG KONG.—For Portland, Oregon, April 14, Aldenbease; 15, Garibaldi; 17, Forward; for San Francisco, 14, Belle of Oregon.

From SAIGON.—None.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool, April 11, Mary Ann Wilson; for New York, (via Ho Ho), 11, Adeline.

From SINGAPORE.—For London, April 20, Madras; 26, Burdwan; for Hamburg, 24, Elisabeth Childs; for New York, 24, Edith.

TELEGRAMS FROM THE FAR EAST.

THE WAR IN ATCHIN.

THE HAGUE, MAY 23.—Intelligence received here from Atchin states that the province of Langsar, and therewith the whole eastern coast of Atchin, has given in its submission, the Rajah accepting the conditions offered by the Dutch Government. The blockade has consequently been raised.

SHIPPING POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT IN THE TABLES.—May 24, at Copenhagen from Manila, Judo; at Flensburg, from Rangoon, Quinta (str.); May 23, at Hamburg, from Hong Kong, Parana; at Antwerp, from Akyab, Amy Dora (str.); 24, passed Deal for Amsterdam, from Java, Princess Amalia; 25, at Copenhagen, from Java, Lennetar; from Bassein, Nymphoea (str.); at Asteria, from Hong Kong, Edward James; at Greenock, from Java, B. Webster.

DEPARTURES.—May 22, from Ymuiden, for Samarang, Abel; 23, from Sunderland, for Penang, Ruth; 24, from Cardiff, for Yokohama, One; for Singapore, Stadacona, Carrizal; May 24, from Cardiff, for Java, Yuca; 25, for Singapore, Indus; from Penarth, for Anjer, Star of Brunswick.

SPOKEN.—Saroo, Rangoon to Channel, March 29, 10 N., 87 E.; Alku, Akyab to Falmouth, April 17, 23 S., 61 W.; Stvd Middelburg, Flushing to Java, April 25, 4 N., 23 W.; Werria, Cardiff to Singapore, May 13, 47 N., 12 W.; Cutwater, Hong Kong, to New York, April 27, off St. Helena.

MISCELLANEOUS.—St. Helena, arrived and sailed, April 24, Josephine Koba, for Falmouth; 27, Favorit, Bassein, for Rotterdam; 28, Our Annie, Singapore for Liverpool. Passed, April 27, Europa, Rangoon for Hamburg; Cassiope, do. for Liverpool, Leif from Akyab, Virginia from Rangoon, both for Falmouth; Margaret Knight, Singapore for Liverpool.

CASUALTIES.—Cape Town, May 1, the Piccadilly, from Mauritius, arrived here yesterday, and brought the crew of the barque Ceylon, Cooper, from London to Yokohama. The Ceylon was totally dismasted, and otherwise damaged in a gale in lat. 37 S., long 16 E., and had to be abandoned, the crew taking refuge on board the American barque J. M. Clark, and being afterwards transferred to the Piccadilly. Singa-

pore, May 25, Galatea, from Hamburg to China, has put in here, leaky, and with sternpost started; she will discharge her cargo previous to being docked.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

Telegraphic advices report that the Tea Market opened at Hankow on the 17th inst., and that from 15,000 to 20,000 packages were settled that day. The quality was inferior to last season. The opening rates were for Oonfas Tia 5, and for Ning-chows Tia 10 lower than last year. A Reuter's Telegram dated May 25th reports that the *Glencagles* and *Loudon Castle* left Woosung with the first of the New Season's Teas that day. Freight for the New Teas at Hankow are quoted by telegram at £3 to £5 10s.

The Messageries Maritimes steamer *Djennah*, with the present inward mail, brought 170 passengers and a general cargo, including 880 bales of silk, 7,600 packages of tea, and 460 packages of sundries, also specie to the value of £15,000 for London, which part of her cargo will be forwarded to its destination by the company's steamer *Euphrate*, due in London on or about the 5th June. The P. and O. Company's steamer *Peshawar* with the heavy portion of last inward mail left Gibraltar on the 22nd inst.

THE *Société des études Japonaises Chinoises et Indo Chinoises* of Paris has elected the following gentlemen as honorary members:—Mr. LOUIS ROCHET, formerly Professor of Mongol and Manchu at the Ecole Speciale des Langues Orientales; M. FRED. BARROT and M. de GREHAN, Consul General for H.M. the King of SIAM. There are three vacancies for corresponding members; and the first election will take place on the 28th June. All gentlemen engaged in Oriental studies are eligible, and application is to be made to the President, the Comte de MONTBLANE.

THE subscriptions in aid of the sufferers by the famine in China are, we are pleased to observe, progressing satisfactorily. The Baptist Missionary Society (as will be seen by the advertisement) acknowledge a large number of donations, and Messrs. JOHN BOURNE and Co., of Mark Lane, have received further sums, aggregating close upon £40.

THE CHINESE MINISTERS.

The Ministers have attended a ball given at Willis's Rooms in aid of the Central London Throat and Ear Hospital, Gray's-inn-road. The entertainment was numerously and fashionably attended, being also under the immediate patronage of the Brazilian Minister, the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, and many other distinguished personages. They were also present at the first great firework display of the season at the Crystal Palace, and will be present at the dinner of the Geographical Society.

The Lords of the Admiralty have arrived at no decision with regard to the successor to Vice-Admiral Ryder as Naval Commander-in-Chief in China. The ability shown by Vice-Admiral Ryder in the discharge of his duties on the Station has induced the authorities to prolong his stay there for as long a period as possible.

The First Lord of the Admiralty has conferred the good service pension of £150 a year, vacant by the promotion of Colonel Penrose, C.B., upon Colonel Commandant J. H. Stewart, Royal Marines.

On the 19th inst., the *Swallow*, 3, gun-vessel, Commander J. B. Warren, sailed for the West Coast of Africa; and the *Elk*, 4, gun-vessel, Commander A. Tupman, for the Pacific.

SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST THE CAPTAIN OF THE "IMMORTALITE."

The court-martial for the trial of Captain F. A. Hume, late of the *Immortalité*, one of the vessels of the Detached Squadron, just returned from the Far East, who is charged with three indecent assaults on an ordinary seaman, named William Rogers, on board his ship, while at Singapore, on Dec. 22 last, was begun on board the Duke of Wellington, flagship, at Portsmouth, on Friday, the 18th inst. The Court is composed of the following officers:—Vice-Admiral Seymour, C.B., president; Rear-Admiral the Hon. F. S. A. Foley, Capt. F. T. Herbert, W. Arthur, the Hon. W. Carpenter, J. C. Wilson, G. H. Parkin, and C. R. F. Boxer, and Mr. G. P. Martin, Paymaster, R.N., Deputy-Judge Advocate. Capt. Blake, R.M., barrister-at-law, prosecuted; and Mr. Fegan, barrister at-law, appears as the prisoner's "friend."

The court-martial was brought to a conclusion on Thursday. The prisoner, in defence, emphatically denied the charges, but admitted that his kindly and, he might say, free manner towards those under him, of which he now saw the result, was very reprehensible. He analysed the statements of Rogers, and declared that he had neither in thought nor deed been guilty of any conduct such as that attributed to him. Evidence as to character having been given, the Court, after an hour's deliberation in private, came to the conclusion that on all the three occasions referred to in the charges, prisoner was guilty of conduct unbecoming the character of an officer, in that he conducted himself improperly towards Rogers. They, therefore, sentenced him to be dismissed from Her Majesty's service.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS, CORRESPONDENTS, &c.

No notice can be taken of Anonymous Correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the Addresses of all Persons connected with the FAN EAST, and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the Office or by letter.

Any Information required by Subscribers in reference to Commercial or general matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, and other parts of the FAR EAST will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those Countries.

The "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" is published Weekly on the day of departure of the mails, and contains a summary of English, Continental, and American News, Commercial and Shipping Reports, &c. Subscription, £3 3s. per annum.

The "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH" is published Weekly on the arrival of the English and French mails. Subscription, £2 2s. per annum.

JAMES WEST, PUBLISHER,
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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON: MONDAY, MAY 28, 1877.

MR. HART AND THE CHINESE LOANS.

IT is certainly not surprising that the China papers, and we presume, also, the China public, have been somewhat astonished at the unexpected circular which Mr. HART, the Inspector General of Customs, issued with reference to the Loans which were projected, as was supposed, under the authority of the Chinese Government. The intimation conveyed to the effect that there was no Imperial authority in any one's hands to contract a Loan came at a moment which was somewhat inopportune (or opportune as the case may be), as a Loan was actually in the course of being concluded by the delegate of HSU TAOUTAI, apparently with the sanction of the provincial authorities, and presumably, though by no means conclusively, with that of the Imperial Government also. The tone in which the matter is treated by the China Press no doubt fairly represents the feeling of the public on the subject; but we think it is only justice both to Mr. HART and the Imperial Government of China to point out that there are considerations which place the affair in a somewhat different light to that in which it was generally, and, no doubt, not unnaturally, regarded at first blush. The public, as might be expected, felt disappointed at what seemed to some extent a repudiation of responsibility by the Peking Government of the acts of the subordinate authorities; but it was too hastily assumed that Imperial sanction had been given. No doubt, judging from our own standard, the fact that a Government official entered into an engagement of any kind might be taken as in itself binding upon the Government, provided the act were in any way one springing from the position which the official performing it occupied. But in China this conclusion cannot by any means be arrived at in all cases. The provincial authorities act in so many matters independently of those at the capital that it is absolutely necessary to be quite certain that they possess the necessary powers in any given case, if we wish to hold the Peking authorities responsible for their acts. It appears that in regard to the Loan which HSU TAOUTAI endeavoured to raise, he actually did not possess authority; but the fact was not discovered until the negotiations had gone to considerable lengths; and it seems that, at the time Mr. HART's circular appeared, the matter was being pushed on by WU, a Hangchow banker, under precisely similar circumstances. However annoying it may have been to those who thought to complete the Loan, to be told that the Imperial Government had given no authority to it, it can hardly be denied that in the interests of the Chinese Government, and also in the interests of the foreigners concerned, Mr. HART adopted a wise course in sounding a seasonable note of warning. It was certainly better to know that the Imperial Government would not hold themselves responsible for the Loan before it was contracted than to have discovered the fact afterwards. It was clear that there was every danger of a misunderstanding arising on the subject unless some steps were taken to warn the public how the matter actually stood; and, looking at the subject in a purely practical point of view, we may congratulate both the Chinese Government and the intending investors at having been saved from what might have been a very unpleasant and very unsatisfactory complication.

While, however, admitting this in fairness to Mr. HART

and the Chinese authorities at Peking, we cannot ignore that the matter, even as it at present stands, is annoying and irritating to all concerned, and is certainly not calculated to raise the credit of the Chinese Government. The lesson which is to be learnt from it is obvious on both sides. Those disposed to lend money to the Chinese authorities should, unless they negotiate direct with Peking, assume that they have only the credit of the provincial or local officials with whom they deal to look to. The security for a Loan to a moderate amount thus made need not necessarily be bad; but it cannot, of course, be regarded in the same light as if the Imperial Government gave their sanction. On the other hand, the Peking authorities should take steps to guard their credit against the injury which would be worked to it by its being wrongfully used by any of their own subordinate officials. The only way to do this effectually would be to declare that no Loan would be guaranteed by them unless contracted through a responsible agent of their own; whether, considering the already multifarious duties of the Customs, Mr. HART would be the most appropriate person to place in the position of their financial agent is a question; but if China desire to obtain money on loan it will, especially now that prominent attention has been called to the nature of the relations between the Imperial and provincial authorities, be absolutely necessary for her to place the matter in some light which will make it clear that the Peking Government holds itself responsible. On the other hand, it can do no harm if a general notification be issued stating that the Imperial Government will not, as a rule, hold itself responsible for Loans negotiated by provincial authorities.

MR. GLADSTONE ON RAJAH BROOKE.

RAJAH BROOKE has been brought before the recollection of the public in an unexpected manner, through some of the ill-considered and intemperate invective in which Mr. GLADSTONE unfortunately so often indulges, and by which he so greatly detracts from the weight of much that he says and writes. In the course of his speech in the House of Commons on the Eastern question he stated that he could not recollect a more shameful proceeding on the part of any country than the slaughter of the Dyaks by Her MAJESTY'S forces and by Sir J. BROOKE, adding that this was vindicated and approved by the House. This uncalled for and unwarranted attack upon the late Sir J. BROOKE has, we notice with pleasure, called forth from Earl GREY an earnest but temperate vindication of the memory of the late "Rajah." The aged peer, who shows that he still retains enough of his old fire to be able to make a good stand in the interests of justice, gives the details of the matter alluded to by Mr. GLADSTONE, and which show clearly that the suppression of the Dyak pirates was a perfectly justifiable and necessary act, and that Mr. GLADSTONE'S implied censure of the House of Commons was unwarranted by the circumstances under which the matter was brought forward. He says:—

The late Mr. Hume, on June 12, 1850, in moving for a commission of inquiry, made a bitter attack on Sir J. Brooke and the naval officers who had taken part in the engagement with the Borneo pirates. After a long debate the motion was rejected by a majority of 169 to 29, not, as your expression would seem to imply, because the House of Commons was indifferent to the commission of acts of cruelty by servants of the British Crown, but because it was fully satisfied, after hearing what was said on both sides, that nothing had been done which was not consistent with humanity, and which was not urgently required in order to put a stop to an atrocious system of outrage and plunder. I have felt justified in troubling you with this statement, because I hope it may induce you to look more closely into the evidence upon which you made in the House of Commons the assertion of which I complain. If you will only do this and consider the question impartially, I cannot doubt that you will find it right to withdraw the cruel charge you have brought against Sir James Brooke, which has given much pain to me and, I am sure, to his many other friends and admirers. I take a special interest in this matter, because I had the means of becoming fully acquainted with Sir J. Brooke's proceedings in Borneo from having held the office of Secretary of State for the Colonies during part of the time that he was engaged in his noble endeavour to introduce civilisation and Christianity among its barbarous inhabitants. What I then learnt excited my high admiration of him, and led me to advise the Crown to appoint him to be the first Governor of Labuan when this new colony was established, chiefly for the purpose of promoting British trade, but also not without the hope of giving at least indirect support to the interesting experiment then in progress in Sarawak. The additional information respecting him which I have since gained has only tended to confirm the impression I then received that his character was a truly noble one, and I am sanguine enough to believe that it would be regarded in the

same light by yourself if you could be induced to read the letters he addressed to his mother in the earlier part of his career as Rajah of Sarawak. These, to my mind, most beautiful letters are to be found in the very interesting life of Sir James Brooke published some months ago by Miss Jacob. They were written while the events they describe were going on to a mother whom he passionately loved, obviously without the remotest idea that they would ever be published, and contain an account, bearing the clearest impress of truth and sincerity, of all that he did, and of the feelings and motives by which he was guided. We find in them a touching record of his pity for the poor oppressed Dyaks, of his righteous indignation against their oppressors, of his noble self-devotion, and of his fixed determination to hazard, and, if necessary, to sacrifice for their welfare not only the whole of his moderate private fortune, but ease, health, and life itself, while he steadily refused to listen to all the attempts that were made to induce him to use the position he had acquired for his own personal advantage.

Mr. GLADSTONE's reply is very short, but is little to the point. He says that his recollection was that instead of there having been a protracted battle there was "a large easy unsparing slaughter" of the pirates. Vice-Admiral FARQUHAR also writes to *The Times* on the subject. He says:—

"I had the honour to command the expedition on the occasion of the 'so-called' slaughter alluded to, in July, 1849, Her Majesty's forces having been supported by Sir James Brooke and native allies. My orders were to attack and destroy certain piratical communities of Malays and Dyaks which had long been the terror of the north-west coast of Borneo, rendering life and property utterly insecure, and completely shutting out all commerce; and, happily for the future security of the well-disposed inhabitants and for the development of trade, a rare opportunity occurred of inflicting a severe punishment on the pirates, as I encountered and destroyed a large flotilla of piratical prahms returning red-handed from slaughter, and laden with the plunder of several villages. The service I performed was fully approved by the Government of the day. The lesson thus read these pirates had a most salutary effect; it turned them in a great measure from their predatory habits and from head-hunting, and, under the wise governance of that great and good man Sir James Brooke, they became peaceful communities. The coast, hitherto unapproachable by small traders, were rendered safe, a flourishing trade sprang up, and a country formerly reeking with blood and slaughter now owns a quiet, inoffensive, prosperous, and happy people."

In Thursday's *Times* a second letter appears from Admiral FARQUHAR, in which he narrates the actual facts of the encounter, and states definitely that as soon as the fight was over orders were issued to stay pursuit, although it was in the power of our naval forces to have cut off the pirates almost to a man. Admiral FARQUHAR says that from close intimacy and friendship with the late Rajah BROOKE he is in a position to assert that a more truly humane man never lived.

INQUIRIES have been made of us as to whether the Straits Settlements Association is living or dead. If we are to judge from the absence of any movement in it we might regard it as extinct, but we believe that it has not been formally dissolved. There is the same chairman, the same hon. secretary as when the Association was active in good works on behalf of the Straits community. Why, then—to use MARK TWAIN's words—"this thushness?" The truth is, we believe, that there is no longer the union within the Association which made it powerful outside, and the more active members, rather than pass resolutions by a majority, have preferred to pass no resolutions at all. At the last meeting the whole *raison d'être* of the Society was attacked by two of the leading members, who, in objecting to the proposed representations to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the condition of judicial affairs in the Straits, maintained that the Association should take action only at the request of the community at Singapore, Penang, &c. After a warm discussion the meeting broke up without doing anything. A mistake is, we think, being made by the Association, and we call attention to the matter, hoping that a change of policy will be decided on.

THE promise made by the Under-Secretary of State that the papers relating to the Yunnan Expedition and the Chefoo Convention would shortly be laid before Parliament gives only faint hope that the matter will be settled at an early date, as the state of affairs indicated is only that which has been recognised as existing for months past. It is impossible, however, to ignore the danger which the Government here is incurring of placing itself in a false position by this continued delay. The Chinese are acting apparently in perfectly good faith in opening the new ports and carrying out the other terms of the Convention; and it will become simply impossible for us to accept what is offered on their side and refuse what we

have promised on ours. This is the position into which the Government is rapidly drifting, if, indeed, it have not drifted into it already.

FROM the 1st proximo Japan will be admitted into the General Postal Union, and the rates of postage chargeable on correspondence addressed to that country will be the same as to Hong Kong, viz:—By any route except *via* Brindisi—letters, 6d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; post-cards, 3d. each; newspapers, 1d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; other printed papers, legal and commercial documents, and patterns, 2d. per 2 oz.; *via* Brindisi—letters, 8d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; post-cards, 4d. each; newspapers, 2d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; other printed papers, legal and commercial documents, and patterns, 3d. per 2 oz. Unpaid letters from Japan will be charged on delivery with an additional rate of 3d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Letters, post-cards, newspapers, legal and commercial documents, and patterns addressed may be registered, the registration fee being in all cases 4d., which, in addition to the postage, must be prepaid.

AT the meeting of the Aborigines' Protection Society, which took place on the 23rd inst., Sir BENSON MAXWELL, the chairman, formerly Chief Justice of the Straits Settlements, made some very important observations on the circumstances which led to the murder of the late Mr. BIRCH. We regret that these remarks are noticed only very summarily by the daily papers. As will be seen by the report which we give elsewhere, Sir BENSON considers that the conduct of Sir ANDREW CLARKE in this matter was in every way to be regretted.

WE understand that Mr. DAVIDSON, the late Resident at Perak, has declined an invitation to a public dinner, at which it was desired to express satisfaction with his administration in the native States. Mr. DAVIDSON, while warmly appreciating the honour sought to be conferred on him, deprecates any formal manifestation of it.

ABORIGINES' PROTECTION SOCIETY.

On the 23rd inst. the annual meeting of this society was held in the Temperance Hotel connected with the Friends' institute and meeting in Bishopsgate-street; Sir P. BENSON MAXWELL in the chair; but at eight the attendance was so large that the assembly adjourned to the Women's Meeting, where business commenced with the reading of the report by Mr. F. W. CHESON, the secretary. In reference to the probable ultimate collapse of the Ottoman Empire, it urged the necessity of concerting measures for the abolition both of slavery and of the slave trade in Turkey and Egypt. With regard to the extension of the rule of the Khedive into the regions of Equatorial Africa, the committee were convinced that the only effect of it would be that, while the unfortunate negroes were harried with fire and sword, the slave markets of Egypt and Arabia would be provided with new sources of supply. Some of Mr. H. M. Stanley's friends had warmly inveighed against the society for having called Lord Derby's attention to the fact that the American traveller had hoisted the British flag on the occasion of his second attack on Bambireh, although the society had done no more than take his own story, and make that the foundation of its complaint. When Mr. Stanley's reply to Lord Derby's despatch has been received, the correspondence will be moved for. With regard to affairs in South Africa, the committee recounted the steps they had taken to express sympathy with the natives against whom the Boers of the Transvaal had recently waged war; and on the subject of the South African Confederation Bill they laid down the principle that "native Africans who have withdrawn from the tribal system, and have acquired both education and property, should not be excluded from the elective franchise, or from the enjoyment of any other civil rights." They reprobated the legalising of the practice of selling women for cattle in Natal. In their remarks on the Coolie question they stated that the British Government had stopped immigration from India to French Guiana. In conclusion, the committee congratulated Sir Arthur Gordon on his successful administration of the affairs of Fiji, and on his attempts to prevent the development of a local slave trade.

Sir BENSON MAXWELL then rose and said there was one subject not touched upon in the report, but which was a matter of some little importance as showing the manner in which we managed our dealings with inferior races. He thought it well to allude shortly to it, as he happened to have been long connected with the part of the world where it took place, and was consequently well acquainted with the subject. The meeting would remember that about a year and a half ago a report reached this country that a British officer had been murdered in the Malay Peninsula; that the population had risen against us; that troops had been sent on from China, and, in fact, that a serious state of affairs had arisen, of such a nature that it occupied public attention for some time. He would like to call attention to the manner in which we came to be connected with these people. We had a colony called the Straits Settlements in the Malay Peninsula; and for many years past the Malays had had treaties with the East India Company, and had been always in a state of amity with our Government. About four years ago some disturbances

arose in the Peninsular. The Malays fought among themselves, and the Chinese immigrants also had disagreements, so that there was a good deal of trouble, and almost anarchy. Our Government had always been anxious to avoid becoming entangled with the Malay States. Lord Granville and Lord Kimberley while Secretaries for the Colonies had successively written out on the subject; but the anarchy continuing, when Sir Andrew Clarke was governor in 1873, Lord Kimberley wrote to him that the Government were still anxious to avoid interference with the Malay affairs, but the country was in such a state of anarchy that it became desirable to see if we could not use our influence with the Malay Princes to save this beautiful region from anarchy and ruin, and to ascertain whether it was desirable to appoint an English "Resident" to reside in and assist in governing the country. He should be paid by our Government, and should act only with the full sanction of the Sultan of the States. Sir Andrew Clarke accordingly called the Malay Chiefs together, and drew up certain regulations which he proposed to them to accept. Among these articles was one which said that a Resident should be appointed for the purpose of advising the native Princes, but it went on to say he was not only to give advice, but that his advice was to be followed. Another thing of importance was that the finances and revenue were to be administered under the advice of the Resident. Some time had now elapsed since the Resident in question was appointed. He was now under his grave, and Sir Benson Maxwell did not wish to say anything against his qualifications for the post; but before he had been in the country six weeks the whole place was in hot water. The Resident, it seemed, had a comprehensive scheme for the government of the country; one part of which referred to the toils which the native chiefs had levied from time immemorial and in which their revenue consisted, and the taking away of which was nothing less than an annexation of the rights of these men to some portion of their property. The Sultan at once refused to carry the scheme into effect; and on being pressed again, a month later, refused his assent. This refusal was reported to the Governor, and the Governor wrote to the Sultan saying he had broken the Treaty. The speaker would remind them what the Treaty was. We had been merely asked for an English officer to assist in the government of the country and the management of the revenue; that is to aid the Sultan in looking after the taxes, and to see that there was a better administration of justice and improved protection of life and property. But we soon taught them what we intended to understand by this contract. We practically said to them, "You undertook not only to ask our advice, but also to follow it, and to do nothing without it." This opened the eyes of the Malays to the state of things. As the English Governor read the treaty, its effect was not to supply them with an officer to assist in the government, but to hand over the country to the English. The English Government, indeed, did not stop there, for they entirely denied the right of the Malay Rajah to levy money, and such authority was given to the Resident that he had no reason to doubt his own powers to do exactly as he liked; and in one of his despatches he says: "I send you a proclamation, in which I laid down a tariff." If that was not dictation the speaker did not understand what the term meant. The Malays saw the gulf before them; and they acted a rational part. They sent a deputation of chiefs to see the Governor and complain of the conduct of the Resident, and to request that he would recall him, or that his powers might be seriously restricted. The Governor was upon the point of leaving the country, having been promoted to another appointment, namely, in India. He accordingly merely received the deputation, and said it was not in his power to do anything, which he must leave to the incoming Governor. The Malays went back, and seeing no means of obtaining justice, they retired to the jungle—and for what purpose? They saw nothing for it but to shake off the English yoke. They were in despair as to how to get rid of the burden which they had taken upon themselves so unnecessarily. The Sultan was again called upon to issue fresh orders. He resisted, and the Malays plotted. At this time Sir W. Jervois visited this country; and he thought that this Treaty, which, as explained, was under the guise of a promise to the Malays of an officer to assist them in governing the country, had virtually transferred it to England; and he, as a rational man, and one who disliked shams, tried to get the Sultan to give his consent to a proposal to take over the country at once. He proposed to both Sultans—that is, to the old one who had been deposed, and to the Sultan Abdullah, who had been set up, that this should be done; but the old Sultan said he had been no party to the treaty. He was willing to be bound by all engagements which he had entered into, or which had been entered into by his predecessor, but he would not be a party to the arrangement which the other Sultan had entered into; but at the same time he said if the English Government would give him a suitable officer to assist him to rule the country he would be obliged. Accordingly, the Governor went to the other Sultan, Abdullah, and the result was that he made over the whole of the country to the British. This illustrated our manner of dealing with these people. The speaker's object was not to comment upon it, but simply to bring these facts to notice. We had heard a great deal of late on all sides of the necessity of protecting our interests abroad. He thought that among those interests one of the strongest was our character, and that we should act so as to obtain a character for uprightness and fair dealing.

The adoption of the report having been moved by Mr. BRATHWELL, and seconded by Mr. EDWARD PEASE,

Sir F. BUXTON said he was glad to bear his testimony to the usefulness of the society. One great cause of difficulty between the settlers and the natives arose from different ideas as to land tenure. Sir FOWELL concluded by moving the first resolution:—

"That this meeting desires emphatically to protest against any proposal to extend the authority of Egypt into the regions of Equatorial Africa, as being alike injurious to the peace and civilisation of that continent, unjust to independent native States, and calculated to promote the evils of the slave trade."

The Rev. W. DENTON, in seconding the resolution, said that the slavery which exists in Turkey was so utterly abominable that he could not speak of it in a Christian assembly. Turkish girls were strangled

at their birth, in order that Circassian slaves might be bought for wives. Wherever Russia had gone she had put down slavery.

The resolution having been carried,

Mr. R. N. FOWLER moved a resolution:

"That this meeting earnestly hopes that Her Majesty's Government, in carrying out a policy of confederation in South Africa, will secure to educated natives equal civil and political rights; and it also desires to express its sympathy with Mr. Alderman M'Arthur's motion for the reform of native law in Natal, and especially with that portion of the hon. gentleman's object which contemplates the abolition of practices involving the enslavement and degradation of native women. That the Chairman be requested to forward a copy of this resolution to the Earl of Carnarvon."

It was seconded by Mr. A. M'ARTHUR, M.P., and supported by Mr. EDMUND STURGE, and the meeting terminated in the usual manner.

GERMANY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, MAY 22.

The holidays are over. Whitsuntide this year has been remarkable for exceedingly bad weather, both cold and wet, and the many keepers of pleasure establishments in the vicinity of the city, for which Whitsuntide is the best day in the whole year, have been utterly deceived.

Of late some philanthropists here are cultivating the idea of founding a labourers' quarter, that is to say, a suburb consisting of small but comfortable houses for the labouring classes, after the same system which has already given such good results at Muelthausen in Alsace. The inhabitants of these houses by paying an inconsiderable surplus to the very low rent, after a time of twenty-two years will call these houses their own, at the same time being allowed to sell their claim, if they choose to give up their dwelling. Thus the labourer would be put into the possession of a small landed property, and the undertakers, who require but 4 per cent. interest for their money by this very practical manner hope to suppress the daily increasing socialism. The socialists of course are agitating against the project as much as possible, and it is doubtful whether the plan ever will come to execution.

The Joint-Stock Company Wiser, at Bremen, launched on Saturday, the 19th of this month, the last of the five gunboats ordered by the Imperial Government to that establishment. This new vessel has been christened *Scorpion*, while the names of the four other ships are—*Wespe*, *Biene*, *Viper* and *Mucke*.

The political events which have taken place recently in France are regarded here with much suspicion; Prince Bismark, although having taken leave only a few weeks ago for four months, has already returned to Berlin, and the opinion is that if a clerical ministerium will be installed in France, ere long this nation will partake in the present disturbances in a more active manner, as hitherto has been the case. The garrisons of Strasburg and Metz, as well as all the troops in Alsace, are to be augmented without delay, and it is not beyond the limits of possibility that the present summer may bring a similar surprise as that of 1870.

The owners of a number of Westphalian pits have joined in a union in order to stimulate the export of their black diamonds to transatlantic and European ports, and are giving now an account of their activity in this direction. From Tapenburg, on the river Ems, have cleared during the four months, January–April, 1876, twenty vessels with 4,000 tons, bound for St. Petersburg, Cronstadt, Rerval, Riga, Christiansa, and Gothenburg; from Emden have cleared three vessels to Russian and German Baltic ports; Hamburg has taken 25,000 tons for the traffic of her transatlantic steamer companies, and further 1,700 tons have been sent from our port to China; the Dutch city of Dordrecht sent two loads to Bilbao, in Spain. In addition, the Nord deutsche Lloyd, at Bremen, takes considerable quantities for its steamers. In connection with these circumstances a remarkable pressure is visible in the activity of our coal-jumpers, hitherto employed on board of British coal-steamers, and many of them complain of holidays.

The official statistics concerning the emigration *via* Hamburg during the month of April have been published, according to which 2,686 passengers went to transatlantic ports, viz., to United States, 1,909; to British North America, 12; to the Brazils, 264; to Australia, 503, &c. During the same month in former years the following total has been reached:—1876, 3,909; 1875, 4,696; 1874, 6,974; 1873, 13,954; 1872, 10,511; 1871, 3,806.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

All articles which are influenced by the Russian-Turkish war maintained their value, and in all other articles a good demand for consumption prevailed. Money remains, in spite of the advance in the discount rate at the Imperial Bank, rather abundant.

COFFEE.—Holders are very reluctant to part with their parcels, and transactions have, therefore, mostly been made in floating lots, which were a little cheaper. Quotation for Java, m.1.05 to 1.50.

SUGAR.—Transactions in first-hand parcels have been of limited extent. Quotations:—Manila brown clayed, m.24 to 26; do. unclayed, m.22 to 24; Mauritius brown, m.22 to 30; do. yellow, m.30½ to 32; Batavia white, m.34 to 35; do. yellow and grey, m.31 to 33; do. brown, m.22 to 30; Siam white, Benares and China (wanting), m.31 to 33; Zanzibar brown and yellow, m.23 to 32½; China brown and yellow, m.22 to 29.

RICE.—Broken sorts without supply, and in firm demand, as well as for ordinary qualities. Transactions in raw quality did not transpire.

TEA firm, but quiet; importers are reserved, and of first-hand parcels only 2,253/8 boxes Congo and 200/16 boxes Gunpowder changed owners.

COTTON in very quiet tendency, with prices in favour of buyers. Transactions have only been made in American.

SPICES.—Nutmegs, prime quality, m.5.60 to 6.40; Mace, ditto, m.4.70 to 4.90. Ginger in better tendency; Bengal m.27½ to 28; Ceylon m.53 to 63. Cloves are duller; Zanzibar, m.137 to 138. Pepper quiet; Singapore m.37½ to 38; Penang m.36 to 30½; White m.65 to 80.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

This market did not show any remarkable feature during the past week. The Minister crisis at Paris, and particularly the reported victory of the Turks at Saukum-Kale (Black Sea), being of rather no influence; the business has, therefore, been a regular but not at all an agitated one.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, MAY 17.

The Members of the Second Chamber have left the Hague for the summer recess, but before the adjournment the Minister of the Colonial department gave some most important information about the Atjeh War. Mr. Fransen van de Putte asked for some elucidations chiefly with reference to the effect of the visit paid by the Governor-General to Atjeh; and the answer of the Minister may be summarised as follows:—Mr. Mees in the first place referred to the difficulties which attended the campaign against a brave enemy without the least fear of death, and against cholera, mornas fevers, want of pure water, want of hospitals, with an army enfeebled by sickness and fatigue. The end of the war cannot yet be foreseen. The national honour and our prestige in the Indian Archipelago are both at stake, and it is necessary to act promptly and decisively if we wish to save our reputation. In the beginning the war cost one million of guilders a month; this year the cost will be thirteen millions, and next year sixteen millions will be required. Such an expenditure cannot last much longer. This fact had induced the Governor-General to ask permission to visit the northern coast of Sumatra, in order to establish a permanent system of government there. As to the results of the visit the Minister stated that the Governor-General had formed an excellent opinion of our establishment there. The population acknowledge our authority, and are beginning to trust us. They are weary of the war, which is only continued at the instigation of the chiefs. These are the outlines of the speech of Mr. Mees.

During the same sitting a sham-fight took place between Mr. Kappayne and the Premier about the Lower Class Instruction Bill. The particulars of this debate I will send you in my next letter. I can only say now that it was a most determined attack on the Cabinet, which has already sustained a severe check in the rejection of the Bill of the Minister of War asking a credit to provide our new fortresses with guns.

Yesterday the shareholders of the East India Railway Company met to discuss the proposals of the managers to sell to the State the line Batavia-Buitenzorg for a sum of five millions of guilders. There was only a very trifling opposition. The number of shares represented not being sufficient, the meeting was adjourned for one month.

The dividend of the Netherlands Bank has been fixed at f.164. Mr. Beis has been re-elected manager, and Messrs. G. C. Crommelin, C. Rueb Can, and Professor Vissering, commissaries.

Mr. C. Th. Baron van Lynden van Sandenburg, Minister of Justice has left with his family for Marichenbad.

AMSTERDAM, MAY 23.

Last week I gave you the outlines of an answer of Mr. Alting Mees on an interpellation of Mr. Van de Putte, regarding the Atjeh War. I have little to add to that part of the sitting, which was the very last, but indeed not the least of the Session. Another question, however, was dealt with, viz., the general policy of the Cabinet, of which the following particulars may do. In the first place, our Minister of War underwent an *éclat*. He asked for a credit of f.700,000 to order more heavy guns from Mr. Krupp at Essen, and his Bill was outvoted. The principal fault was that the Minister of the Financial Department did not propose the means to cover this amount, though he asserted that no extraordinary votes would be necessary, which of course was in contradiction to the words of Mr. Mees, telling that 1876 would show an unfavourable balance in the Colonial account. Mr. Blussé urged that such behaviour was at least very strange, and he warned the Minister not to put on his nose spectacles provided with rose-coloured glasses. This debate was only an accessory matter, and did not give a practical result. The point of the discussion was the struggle between Mr. Kappayne and Mr. Heemskerk, who had asked a credit for improving the new canal from Rotterdam to the North Sea. The leader of the Liberals began by declaring that he would give his vote to this Bill, but with aversion, because it could not prove that he had confidence in the Minister. The majority have voted a large number of Bills in order to make the Cabinet possible to govern. But instead of laying before the M.P.s the Lower Class Instruction Bill, by which the country is agitated, the Minister has delayed his answer to the Section-report so long that it has been an impossibility to deal with it. In the same style Mr. Heemskerk treated the Electoral Bill. This proves that he is afraid to bring political matters in Parliament; the Cabinet thus becomes an "administration." Mr. Kappayne was quite convinced that the polling-day in June next would not confirm such a state of things. The Minister made excuses, and said that the Section report had made a new inquiry necessary, so that the delay was not the fault of him. The Liberal leader, however, said that Mr. Heemskerk does not dare, or does not will. Thereupon the matter dropped, and the M.P.s left the Hague. Yesterday evening the members of the Senate met for the despatch of business.

On the meeting of shareholders of the Netherlands Bank, at which a dividend of f.164 per share was declared, the report was read. It stated that the year 1876 had not been an important one for the operations of the Bank. The greatest calmness prevailed; there were no difficulties to overcome, in one word the trade was healthy, whilst the discount market remained unaltered. The figures bear of course the impress of these facts. The Netherlands India Gas Company has issued a new loan of f.1,300,000, divided in 1,200 shares, and bearing an interest of 5 per cent., whilst the rate of issue is fixed at 95 per cent., f.90,000 of this amount is destined to pay off the existing 6 per cent. loan, whilst the rest will be used on behalf of the new concessions granted to the Company for Sourabaya and Samarang. The whole will be repaid in twenty-five years.

According to the statistical returns, the population of our country reached on January 1, 1877, the figure of 3,865,456, that is 55,929 more than on that date of 1876.

The Company Zealand ordered in England two new powerful steamers to ply between Flushing and Queensboro'. They will be baptised Prinses Marie and Prinses Elisabeth. Some days ago a very large steamer, built in England for account of the Royal Steam Shipping Company, arrived here; she will start to Java in June next for account of the Company Nederland.

The *Zyd*, the principal Roman Catholic paper, collected in behalf of the Jubilee of the Pope a sum of f.30,000, which will be handed to him in specie, it being now no period to make the chief of the Church costly presents.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

Owing to the season the greatest calmness prevailed in our markets for Colonial produce; the only demand is for the direct wants. Prices, however, remain firm.

COFFEE looks now duller, which must be ascribed to the forthcoming public sale of the Dutch Trading Company, in which only a few fine qualities will be offered. The broker valuation is based on 52 for good ordinary. Prices are well maintained. Several lots of private import have changed hands.

RAW SUGAR.—The market is very firm, but holders are declining to operate without a further advance of the prices, and the transactions have been of no importance. The lots which have changed hands amount to 7,000 mats, which were sold at f.2½ to f.3½ above April value. Refined is much quieter.

TEA.—The result of the public sale which was held last week at Rotterdam made an excellent impression. For the superior qualities of Congou and Soucheong very high prices were paid. The article looks very healthy.

RICE (uncleaned) is very calm. The holders decline to operate without more profits, which, of course, checks business. Cleaned Java and Japan meet with a regular demand.

SPICES.—In public auction were sold 68 ba. Amboina Cloves at 91 to 95 cents, and 10 faid. Cinnamon at 125 cents. Next Friday the Dutch Trading Co. will bring under the hammer 77 casks and 46 chests Nutmegs, and 38 casks and 52 chests Mace. Both the last-named articles met with a good demand for export. The other ones were rather dull.

TOBACCO.—The transactions were rather trifling; only a very few lots changed hands. In the last days of this and the first ones of the forthcoming month 10,024 ba. Java and 5,390 bags Sumatra will be offered by private tender. The stock includes 20,238 ba. Java, 6,201 ba. Sumatra, and 3,000 ba. E.I.

CORROX looks dull; prices are declining, the stock is very large and the industry languishing.

DRUGS.—On the 1st of June the Dutch Trading Company will offer for public sale several lots Gutta-percha, Gelaah, Gintang, Gum Copal. CAMPHOR.—Some lots were offered at lower prices; they were sold in a moment for export. Nothing can be bought now under 55c.

BATTANS.—253 piculs, ex Aurora, were sold; prices did not transpire. INDIGO looks firm, but the transactions were very trifling. Only 40 chests changed hands.

HIDES.—In consequence of the war, this article met with a good demand. Several lots changed hands.

TIN looks dull. Banca cannot obtain f.43; Billiton is quoted f.41 lower.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cent., 62½, 63 3-16; do. Three per Cent., 75½, 75¾; do. Four per Cent., 100, 100¼; Dutch Trading Company, 105½, 106; Netherlands-India Trading Bank, 124½, 125; do. (Obligations) Five per Cent., 102½; Netherlands Bank, 349½, 354; Rotterdam Bank, —; Amsterdam Bank, 83; Java Bank, 198, 200; Java Gas Company, —; Steam Company "Java" (Shares), 48; do. (Obligations) Five per Cent., 92, 91½; do. "Netherland" (Shares), 83½; do. (Obligations) Five per Cent., 101; Dutch India Railway Shares, 97; do. 1869 (Obligations) Four-and-a-Half per Cent., 101½; do. 1874 (Obligations), Four-and-a-Half per Cent., 100½; International Trading Company "Rotterdam," 148.

The transactions were very limited, but the trade looked healthier. The shares of the Netherlands-India Trading Bank met with a large demand. A good dividend is looked for.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—May 16, at Brouwershaven, from Tjilatjap, Johanna and Margaretha; 17, at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Admirl de Ruyter; at Ymuiden, from Passaroeang, Ortelius; 18, at Nieuwe Diep, from Nagasaki, M. I. R.; at Ymuiden, from Samarang, Jessie Jamieson; 21, at Texel, from Batavia, Voorlichter.

DEPARTURES.—May 17, from Ymuiden, for Sourabaya, Baron Van Palland Van Roosendaal; 19, from Nieuwe Diep, for Batavia, Voorwaarts (str.); 21, from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Hendrika; from Ymuiden, for Batavia, Mr. Jacob Van Lennep; 22, from Ymuiden, for Samarang, Abel.

Monetary and Commercial.

In the Produce Markets owing to the temporary interruption of business by the Whitsuntide holidays business in all articles has been on an extremely limited scale. The rising tendency of Coffee has made further progress, stimulated by the favourable result of the Dutch Trading Company's sale. Camphor and Japan Wax have also risen in value. Pepper, Rice, Spices and Sugar are dull. Gambier is lower. Tin has also declined, Straits being quoted £70 to £70 10s., Banca £74, Billiton £71 per ton.

The Tea market has been in a state of suspense, and transactions have been only on a limited scale, attention being mainly

directed to the telegraphic advices from China. The market at Hankow opened on the 17th inst. About 20,000 packages were settled that day, and the tone was reported active, which seemed to indicate that prices would be upon the rise. It appears, however, that more prudence than usual has actuated buyers, probably from the opening rates not being countenanced on this side, and later telegrams indicate a quieter tone, and state that steamers find a difficulty in filling up. The Chinese, who for so many years have dictated their own terms, will be scarcely able to realise the novel spectacle of buyers holding off for lower prices. The limits actually sent out appear to have been very much higher than those spoken of by the brokers in their advice as to prudent opening prices. The crop in China is reported to be a full one, but the quality is considered inferior.

The total quantity of tea delivered from the bonded warehouses in London during the week which ended on the 19th inst. amounted to 3,470,326 lbs., which was 369,740 lbs. more than was cleared during the corresponding week of 1876. Of this quantity 2,294,948 lbs. went for home consumption, 341,564 lbs. for exportation, 3,385 lbs. for ships' stores, and 830,428 lbs. went coastwise to various outports, 101,368 lbs. having been for immediate exportation. The sum paid in London during the week for tea duty was £57,373 14s., an increase of £3,290 7s. 6d. over the amount derived from the same source of revenue during the corresponding week of last year. The following were the quantities of the other principal dutiable articles withdrawn from the London bonded warehouses for home consumption during the week:—Coffee, 486,349 lbs.; cocoa, 61,960 lbs.; tobacco, 350,676 lbs.; cigars, 12,491 lbs.; wine, 149,566 gallons; brandy, 28,312 gallons; and rum, 26,565 gallons.

In the Silk market there has been a better tone, and prices are quoted at 1s. to 1s. 6d. higher; but holders are not willing to meet this comparatively small advance on the heavy fall of the last few months. The latest telegrams from China are confirmatory of the reports of a probably short crop there, and trustworthy authorities consider that the export will not be likely to exceed from 50,000 to 55,000 bales. The quantity of Hainings it is said will be only about a half what it was last year. The reports from the Continent are still indefinite; but there seems good ground to believe that the cold weather which has prevailed in Italy and France will affect the yield. Latest advices from Milan confirm these reports, and there seems no doubt that the Italian crop will be a poor one.

Telegrams from Shanghai announce the suspension of Messrs. J. M. Canny and Co., of that port, and Chinkiang; also of a small firm at Yokohama.

The 22nd inst. was a heavy day for acceptors in the China and Japan trade, but we have not heard of any defaulters.

Tenders for £265,000 in bills and telegrams on India were received on the 23rd inst. at the Bank of England. The amounts allotted were:—To Calcutta, £178,500; Bombay, £85,500; and Madras, £1,000. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras for bills at 1s. 8½d. will receive in full; telegrams at that price *nil*. On Bombay telegrams at 1s. 8½d. will receive about 90 per cent.; above in full. This shows, as was anticipated, a reduction of ½d. compared with the price of last week.

The market for Bar Silver is quiet, and in response to the decline in the rates for the Council Drafts prices have given way, and Bars may be quoted at 54d. to 54½d. per oz. Mexican dollars have also declined in value, and have been placed at 54½d. per oz.

The following Joint-Stock Companies have been registered:—

Ascot Charter's Pond and Sunningdale Land, Building, and Brick Manufacturing—Capital £20,000, in £10 shares.
Beck and Co.—Capital £15,000, in £10 shares.
Blackburn Mineral Waters—Capital £10,000, in £5 shares.
Brosley Tilers—Capital £10,000, in £20 shares.
Bury and Redcliffe Carriage—Capital £10,000, in £5 shares.
Central Reinsurance Society—Capital £100, in £1 shares.
Kent, Brick, Tile, and Pottery—Capital £25,000, in £10 shares.
Lancashire and Yorkshire Mutual Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance, and Steam Engine Inspection—Capital £100,000, in £5 shares.
Leicestershire Cricket Ground—Capital £20,000, in £10 shares.
London Coffee-house Improvement—Capital £50,000, in £5 shares.
New Broadfayd—Capital £20,000, in £2 shares.
Sandscale Mining—Capital £10,000, in £50 shares.

DOCUMENTARY AND PRIVATE BILLS.

	60 d/s.	30 d/s.	Demand.
Colombo ...	1/8½	1/8½	1/8½
Singapore ...	3/10 to 3/10½	3/10½ to 3/10½	3/10½ to 3/10½
Hong Kong ...	3/10 to 3/10½	3/10½ to 3/10½	3/10½ to 3/10½
Shanghai ...	5/2½ to 5/2½	5/2½ to 5/3	5/2½ to 5/3½

BULLION AND EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.

Bar Gold ...	77s. 9d.	—	per oz.
United States Gold Coin ...	76s. 3½d.	—	per oz.
German Gold Coin ...	76s. 3½d.	—	per oz.
Bar Silver, Fine ...	4s. 6d. to 4s. 6½d.	—	per oz. std.
Bar Silver contg. 5 grs. Gold ...	4s. 6½d. to 4s. 6½d.	—	do.
Mexican Dollars ...	4s. 6½d.	—	per oz.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.

Messrs. Arthur Capel and Co.'s Circular says:—Business during the past week has been much interfered with by the Whitsuntide holidays, transactions by private contract being unimportant, and sales by public auction very small. A further supply of new season's new-make Congous, placed on the market, have been taken at about previous rates. Congous.—Red-leaf kinds: Siftings, continue firm; common to good common have been saleable at the slightly better rates quoted in our last report; fair to medium and fine show no change. Pak Lin kinds sell slowly at low rates for fine to finest. Black-leaf kinds: Common to good common are fairly saleable at the low rates now ruling; fair to medium are neglected, and very low prices must be accepted to effect sales; good to fine show no alteration, the demand being small. New-make Congous: Further arrivals of new season's have met with a moderate demand at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d. for fair to good, and 1s. 5d. to 1s. 7d. for fine quality. Oolongs and Souchongs show no alteration. Scented Teas: Canton Capers are difficult of sale at the reduced rates now ruling, good to fine being especially depressed in value, and without any inquiry. Green Teas: The quantity offered is much beyond the requirements of the trade, and prices realised at auction have been very irregular.

The public sales have comprised 13,381 packages, nearly the whole of which were printed and sold without reserve. The deliveries for the week, as compared with last year, are as follows, viz:—

	1877.	1876.
	lbs.	lbs.
Home Consumption ...	1,859,933	2,125,050
Coastwise ...	587,137	674,597
Exports ...	402,024	234,855
	*2,849,144	3,034,502

* This week comprised five days, as against six last year—Whit-Monday being a holiday.

SILK.

There has been more inquiry during the last few days, and some transactions have taken place at advanced prices. The deliveries are still unsatisfactory, being from 1st to 23rd inst. inclusive:—China 1,011 bales, Canton 280, Japan 85, Bengal 64, total 1,440 bales.

LONDON QUOTATIONS—May 24.

CHINA.		
Tantles, No. 1 ...	...	23s. 6d. to 24s. 6d.
" No. 2 ...	...	22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d.
" No. 3 ...	...	21s. 6d. to 22s. 6d.
" Red Peacock ...	...	18s. 6d. to 19s. 6d.
Yuenfa and Hainan, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 ...	...	18s. 6d. to 22s. 6d.
Tayassun Keying, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 ...	...	17s. 6d. to 22s. 6d.
Long Keel ...	...	11s. 6d. to 14s. 6d.
Canton ...	...	12s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.
Chinese Throwa ...	...	14s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.
JAPAN.		
Mailash and Sinchu, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 ...	...	21s. 6d. to 27s. 6d.
Idah, No. 2 (None) ...	...	...
Sodai, No. 2 ...	...	18s. 6d. to 19s. 6d.
Oshiu, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 ...	...	18s. 6d. to 23s. 6d.
Amatsuki ...	...	16s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.
Fakidash ...	...	22s. 6d. to 24s. 6d.
Hatcha-gee ...	...	14s. 6d. to 17s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The Dutch Trading Company's public sale was held on the 23rd inst. at Rotterdam; 104,586 bags Java, &c., were offered, and the sale went off with spirit at 1s. to 2s. above valuations, good ordinary Java selling at about 54½ cents (equal to about 89s. 6d. per cwt., or 6s. 6d. above last sale). This result has not only maintained the previous upward tendency in this market, but has further stimulated the demand, and the moderate supplies at auction were disposed of with strong competition at a further advance for Plantation Ceylon, closing prices of which are as follow:—Trials 88s. to 91s. 6d., common grey to colour small 95s. to 101s., low middling 102s. 6d. to 104s., middling 104s. 6d. to 106s. 6d., good middling to fine middling 107s. to 109s., bold 112s. to 117s. 6d., pea-berry 106s. 6d. to 111s. There have been no transactions in Native Ceylon or in other East India descriptions.

COCONUT OIL.—The market is steady. Cochin is quoted £42, Ceylon £37 10s. to £38, according to packages. Of 193 casks Ceylon at auction 22 hogsheds sold, good at £38, the remainder being withdrawn or bought in, pipes at £37 10s. to £37 15s.

COTTON.—A slight improvement in the tone of the market early in the week has since entirely disappeared, and renewed depression has prevailed. The sales for the week are about 3,500 bales. On the spot—Tinnivally 5 5-16d. to 5½d., good fair to good. Western Madras 5d., good. Salem 4 11-16d., fair. Bengal 4d. to 4½d., fair to good fair.

CARDAMOMS are in demand, and 8 bags bold Ceylon sold at 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.

CAMPHOR.—The market is firm; 150 tubs Japan have been sold at 97s. 6d. landing weights, and for China, 95s. per cwt. is refused.

CORCH.—Privately sales of Elephant Pegu have been made at 25s. per cwt., showing no alteration in value.

GAMBER.—The market is flat, and prices are lower, 300 tons in dock having been sold at 19s. ex ship, whole sales at 20s. In auction 74 bales were withdrawn.

GUM COPAL.—22 packages Manila sold without reserve, good hard dark at 22s. fine 32s. per cwt.

JAPAN WAX.—100 cases fine squares have changed hands at 46s. per cwt., being a further slight advance.

PEPPER.—Black: The demand exhibits no improvement, and sales continue very small, but prices unchanged. In auction only 406 bags good Singapore were offered and bought in at 3½d. to 3½d. **White:** The small supply of 146 bags Singapore at public sale met a steady demand, and 106 bags good fair sold at 6½d. per lb. For arrival 26 tons Singapore, April-May shipment, have been sold at 6½d.

PLUMBAGO.—132 barrels Ceylon sold steadily, middling to bold lump 14s. 6d. to 16s., good bold chips 9s. 8d. to 9s. 9d., common dust 7s. 2d. to 8s. per cwt.]

RICE.—Scarcely any business has been done, but the tone of the market is firm. On the spot 2,000 bags new Rangoon, ex steamer Repore, have been sold at 10s. 6d. A cargo of 1,100 tons Rangoon, May-June shipment, has been sold at 10s. 3d. open charter. On the spot 5,500 bags inferior Japan have been sold at 10s. 9d. to 10s. 10½d.

SAFANWOOD.—14 tons Manila sold at £5 to £6, including slightly damaged.

SUGAR.—The market has reopened, after the Whitsun recess, with a quiet tone, home refiners showing an unwillingness to buy, and scarcely any business has been done in refining kinds, low brown sorts are also dull, but grocery descriptions and fine Java at auction have sold readily at firm rates. Previous to the holidays 800 bags fine Native Penang sold at 21s. 6d., and 2,600 tons unclayed Ilo Ilo, ex previous auction, at 21s. 6d. Since the reopening of the market the following transactions have been recorded:—On the 23rd inst. in auction 2,432 baskets 510 bags fine Java, per Manfred, sold at full prices, chiefly good and fine grainy yellow at 33s. to 33s. 6d., a small part middling at 32s. 6d., washed at 31s. 3d. to 33s. 4,133 bags China were bought in, chiefly low and ordinary brown at 20s. 6d. to 21s., a few lots yellow at 29s. Privately 450 tons unclayed Zebu Manila sold at 21s. 9d., also the floating cargo, per Golden Fleece, 2,600 baskets Java No. 14 to 14½ at 34s. for the Baltic. On the 24th at auction 6,581 bags China were all bought in, chiefly date sort at 21s. 6d. to 22s., Hainan at 22s. 6d. to 23s., a few clayed at 26s. to 27s.

TOBACCO.—71 bales Japan sold at 7½d. to 9d., 8 bales Japan damaged 6d., 360 bales China 4½d. to 5½d., 94 bales China damaged 4d. to 4½d., inferior 2½d. to 2½d., and 17 bales Java at 3½d.

TEA.—The demand has been very limited; Straits has changed hands at £70 10s. to £70.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	From	At
May 7	Craig Ewan	Birnie	Amy	New York
14	Lord Raglan	Mellay	Banjoewangie	Ymuiden
14	Dordrecht II.	Rotgans	Do.	Helvoet
14	Vrethtrocker	Vellenga	Matassar	Do.
15	Mindoro	Wray	Manila	Boston
15	Pano	Norby	Hong Kong	Hamburg
15	Feiga	Christiansen	Do.	Do.
16	Campsie Glen	Smith	Sourabaya	Greenock
17	Raleion	Adam	Java	Do.
17	Volmer (s.)	Hausen	Bassia	Liverpool
17	Wester Schelde	Ran	Batavia	Fishing
17	Ortelius	Dunker	Passarong	Ymuiden
17	Admiral de Buyter	Besseling	Banjoewangie	Texel
17	Kurrachee	Maxwell	Java	Harve
18	E. P. Bonveris	Evans	Rangoon (for orders)	Scilly
18	Gladys (s.)	Brittain	Maulmain	Bremen
18	Arethusa (s.)	Altman	Akyab	Antwerp
18	Jessie Jamieson	West	Samarang	Ymuiden
18	J. K.	Buithell	Nagasaki	Texel
18	Otto	Jackman	Manila	New York
19	Heaperia (s.)	Johnson	Shanghai	London
19	Norman Cowan	Shaw	Do.	Do.
19	Othello	Thomas	Rangoon	Do.
19	Arosa Bay	McIntyre	Do.	Do.
19	Abercrombie	Lewis	Do.	Falmouth
19	Hermann	Schmidt	Samarang	Do.
19	Cornelia Smit	Osweland	Do.	Do.
19	Diadem (s.)	Carpenter	Rangoon	Liverpool
19	Herman	Dillon	Maulmain	Do.
20	Nestor (s.)	Webster	Shanghai	London
20	Fire Queen	Hamilton	Manila	Do.
20	Lennox Castle	Wood	Singapore	Do.
20	Glenlyon	Harding	Rangoon	Greenock
20	Jessie Gilbert	Blandford	Do.	Queenstown
20	Elizabeth	Danberg	Sourabaya	Harve
21	Voorlichter	De Willigen	Batavia, &c.	Texel
21	Clara	Do	Singapore, for Harve	Do
21	Asterop	Ross	Singapore	Off Scilly
21	Edeline	Chalmers	Penang	London
21	Sunda	Volkery	Samarang, for Rotterdam	Passed Deal
21	Mikado	Prehn	Shanghai	New York
22	Hibernia (s.)	Cato	Penang	London
22	Amy Dora (s.)	Stephens	Akyab, for Antwerp	Passed Isle of W.
22	Cape Clear	Tupman	Manila	San Francisco
22	State of Alabama (s.)	Hanlin	Rangoon	London

DEPARTURES.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	For	From
May 9	Queensberry	Henning	Yokohama	New York
10	Abbie N. Franklin	Howe	Anjer	Do.
10	Spartan	Crossley	Do.	Do.
10	Burmah	Foreman	Batavia	Newcastle
10	Meteor	Dunkelberg	Hong Kong	Hamburg
17	Frans Uthmann	Leakow	Singapore	Liverpool
18	Ada	Do	Batavia	London
18	Hampton (s.)	McMontrey	Do.	Southampton
18	Wilhelm Anton	Denckis	Singapore	Cardiff
19	Lothair	Orchard	Yokohama	London
19	Melusine	Pfieger	Hong Kong	Penarth
20	Glenfalloch (s.)	Taylor	Singapore	London
20	Mr. Jacob van Lennep	Beckman	Batavia	Ymuiden
20	Jan van Haften	Rutgers	Do.	Do.
21	Pauline	Tyler	Yokohama, &c.	Do.
21	Anna	Wittenbein	Singapore	Cardiff
21	Hugo	Ohr	Do.	Do.
21	Toodora	Perce	Manila	Liverpool
21	Leoline	Richards	Ilo Ilo	Greenock
21	Hendrika	Bua	Samarang	Rotterdam
23	Voorwaarts (s.)	Van Boggen	Batavia	Southampton
23	Templar	Haskell	Singapore	Penarth

See Shipping Postscript and Correspondents' Letters.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

Date.	Steamer.	From	For
May 30	Bangkok	London	Singapore
23	Cape Clear	Southampton	Bangkok

SPOKEN

DAPHNE, London to Hong Kong, March 30, 33 S., 24 W.
BOWFILL, of Liverpool, for Canton, April 22, 2 N., 21 W.
CORNELIA V. BENTON, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, May 2, off the Start.
W. E. GLADSTONE, London to Singapore, April 22, 2 N., 23 W.
BERWICKSHIRE, London to Singapore, April 15, 22 S., 28 W.
N.L.Q.F. (Dutch barque), Anjer to Falmouth, 51 days out, 23 S., 8 E.
GEORGE CROSHAW, Cardiff to Hong Kong, April 23, 3 N., 25 W.
K.P.L.M. (barque), Singapore to London, May 7, 30 N., 39 W.
LAURENS COSTER, Singapore to Rotterdam, May 5, 23 N., 40 W.

CASUALTIES.

PORTSMOUTH.—May 20, the German barque Ferdinand Brumm, Voss, from London to Hong Kong, with a general cargo, has put in here, having been in collision this morning with an unknown steamer, off Dungeness; lost cutwater, bobstay, anchor stock, forstoppallantmast, jibstays, guys, &c., and part of rail on starboard bow. She makes no water.

HAVRE.—May 19, the master of the Kurrachee, arrived here from Java, with sugar, states that he has reason to believe that there will be considerable damage to cargo, in consequence of the vessel having been hove down on her beam ends for 24 hours in the Indian Ocean.

CAPE TOWN.—(By telegram dated Madeira, May 19.) The British brig, Maid Marian, from Cardiff to Hong Kong, put in here April 28, to repair damage received in severe gales.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NAPLES.—May 18, arrived and left, Celebes (str.), from Batavia for Nieuwe Diep.

MALTA.—May 17, passed, Drenthe (str.), from Batavia for Rotterdam; May 21, sailed, Micado (str.), from London for China; Aurrera (str.), from Manila, for Liverpool; Mandalay (str.), from Rangoon, for Liverpool.

ALGOA BAY.—April 13, sailed, Magnus Huss, for Guam.

TABLE BAY.—April 19, sailed, Graf Klot von Trantwetter, for Guam.

EAST LONDON.—April 17, sailed, Azelia, for Anjer.
THE Nederland Company's steamship Voorwaarts, Captain G. von Roggen, sailed from Southampton on the 22nd inst. with the Dutch mails, a large number of passengers, and a full cargo, for Padang, Batavia, Samarang, Sourabaya, &c.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Glenroy. For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Yokohama, and Hiogo: Atholl, Burmese.

SAILING VESSELS.—For Yokohama and Hiogo: Kingdom of Sweden. Evelyn, Bertha, Marion. For Shanghai: Wylo, Birchvale. For Hong Kong: Melbrek, Kate Carnie, Elmstone, Lord of the Isles, Faugh a Ballaugh. For Batavia, &c.: Valero, Indien. For Singapore: Lake Leman, Selim. For Penang: Cokeno.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Patroclus (str.). For Hong Kong: Alexandra, Cilurum. For Manila: Cadis (str.), Trinidad. For Anjer: Ellen Munroe. For Singapore: Kalliope.

At GLASGOW.—For Penang and Singapore: Ashmore. For Singapore: Ulva.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Rates for steamers on the berth are very firm, few vessels being obtainable. By sailing ships the rates are advancing. There is nothing doing in homeward chartering.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth.

For STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 45s. meat. To Hiogo: 50s. weight, 50s. meat. To Nagasaki: 60s. weight, 65s. meat. To Shanghai: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Hankow: 60s. weight, 60s. meat. To Hong Kong: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Singapore: 45s. weight, 35s. meat. To Penang: 45s. weight, 35s. meat. To Colombo: 30s. weight or meat. To Batavia: 60s. meat. To Samarang: 70s. meat. To Sourabaya: 70s. meat.

For SAILING VESSELS.—To Yokohama: 30s. weight, 30s. meat. To Hiogo: 30s. weight or meat. To Shanghai: 25s. weight, 20s. meat. To Hong Kong: 25s. weight, 20s. meat. To Singapore: 22s. 6d. weight, 20s. meat. To Penang: 22s. 6d. weight, 20s. meat. To Batavia Samarang, and Sourabaya: 20s. to 25s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meat. To Colombo: 25s. weight, 22s. 6d. meat.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne, per keel—To Yokohama: £30. To Shanghai: £30. To Hong Kong: £25. To Singapore: £22. To Penang: £23. To Colombo: £20. To Galle: £18. To Batavia and Sourabaya: £22.

From Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, per ton.—To Yokohama: 35s. To Shanghai: 32s. 6d. To Hong Kong: 27s. 6d. To Manila: 25s. To Singapore: 23s. To Penang: 23s. To Colombo: 22s. To Galle: 20s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 22s.

From Birkenhead, per ton.—To Hong Kong: 22s. 6d. To Shanghai: 25s. To Singapore: 19s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 18s. To Galle: 18s.

LAUNCHES.

On the 14th inst. Messrs. Richardson, Duck, and Co., South Stockton-on-Tees, launched an iron sailing ship of the following dimensions, viz.: length over all 243 ft., do. B.P. 225 ft., breadth (extreme) 37 ft. 10 in., depth in hold 22 ft. 9 in., tonnage O.M. 1,537 tons, do. gross N.M. 1,427 tons. She is classed 100A at Lloyd's, twenty years in the Liverpool Registry, and has been built under special survey. She is owned by Donald Kennedy, Esq., Liverpool, is intended for the India and China trade, and will be commanded by Captain Starkie, who has superintended her while building. The ship was named the Queen of Scots by Miss Starkie, of Glenavy, Ireland.

The following iron sailing ships intended for the Indian trade have recently been launched:—The Dartford, length (B.P.) 208 ft., breadth 35 ft., 10 inches, depth of hold 21 ft. 9 inches, class 100 A1 at Lloyd's,

twenty years in Liverpool Registry, about 1,320 tons gross register; built by Mounsey and Foster, Sunderland, and owned by Messrs. Adamson and Ronaldson, London. The Tilkhurst of 1,731 tons, built by A. McMillan and Son, Dumbarton, to the order of W. R. Price, Esq., London.

NOTICES TO MARINERS.

China—Hai-Tan Strait.—Position of Ashuelot Rocks.—The following information relative to Ashuelot rocks, in the southern part of Hai-tan strait, has been received from Commander R. H. Napier, H.M. surveying vessel Nassau:—Ashuelot rocks consist of two pinnacles, lying east and west, distant 65 yards from each other. The Western pinnacle has 4 feet over it at low water spring tides, with 6 fathoms close around, and bears N. 26 deg. E. from the summit of Pass island, dis-

tant 6 cables, and S. 73 deg. W. from the centre of Low island, distant 2 cables. The Eastern pinnacle has 1½ fathoms over it, with 6 fathoms close around. A detached rock with 3½ fathoms over it lies N.W. by N., half a cable from the Western pinnacle. This foul ground should be carefully avoided:—Station island kept open of the point inside Junk Sail rock leads through the channel westward of Ashuelot rocks.

Java—North Coast. Proposed Lights at Iapara and Joana.—The Netherlands Government has given notice, that it is proposed to establish a harbour light at Iapara. The light will be a fixed red light, shown from an iron post thirty-nine feet high. Also, that it is proposed to establish a harbour light at Joana. The light will be a fixed white light, shown from an iron post, visible from seaward through an arc of 270°. The illuminating apparatus of both these lights will be dioptric or by lenses, of the sixth order.

TRIESTE ROUTE FOR INDIA, ALEXANDRIA, CONSTANTINOPLE, SMYRNA, PORTS IN THE LEVANT, &c.—The AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAMERS leave Trieste weekly. For dates of sailing and all particulars apply at the offices, 127, Leadenhall-street, or at No. 14, Waterloo-place, London, S.W., and 4, Oriental-buildings, Southampton.

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THE MISSIONARY SCHOOL BLACKHEATH.

THE foundation stone was laid in 1856 by the Earl of Shaftesbury. The building was intended to accommodate seventy-five pupils, and was opened in 1857. The cost was £7,000. The Institution has been a decided success; the number of boys rapidly rose to seventy-five, and in addition to these there were in attendance as day pupils twenty of the sons of gentlemen of the neighbourhood, it being thought advantageous that the missionaries' children should mix freely with boys born and brought up in England. For some years past there has been a growing difficulty in obtaining a sufficient income to keep the Institution in working order (probably in consequence of a very general impression that one or two of the Missionary Societies supported the School), so that it has been found needful to reduce the number of pupils to fifty. A meeting of subscribers was lately called to consider the expediency of closing the School. The result, however, was a vigorous effort to raise the necessary funds to carry it on efficiently. The appeal was warmly responded to, and £1,000 was obtained. The debt has been paid off, some necessary repairs effected, and the hope is that the Home and School, so valued by our noble band of missionaries, will be raised to a state of efficiency equal to that of its best days.

The Committee is happy to have as the present Head Master the Rev. Edward Waite, M.A., a gentleman of high literary qualifications, while Mrs. Waite is a true mother to the boys. There is an efficient staff of masters assisting Mr. Waite, and every confidence is felt that such an education is being given as will afford entire satisfaction both to the parents and the subscribers. The Institution is wholly unsectarian in its character. The total number of boys received since 1852 is 307. Of these 176 were the sons of missionaries of the London Missionary Society; Baptist, 75; Presbyterian, 23; Wesleyan, Episcopalian, and others, 23.

The School is not intended for merely secular instruction; the spiritual interests of the boys are carefully attended to; they are diligently instructed in the truths of Holy Scripture, their conduct constantly watched over, and the whole of their school life pervaded by Christian influence. The Committee are aware that the character of education in general has been much improved in recent years, and being anxious not to fall behind any similar institution, have tested the progress of the boys periodically by Cambridge University Examiners and otherwise, with very satisfactory results. They desire to stimulate the diligence of the boys by offering for competition at least one scholarship—or by what shall be equivalent to a scholarship. Some of the lads show excellent capacities, which would justify the highest opportunities of culture.

The terms on which pupils were originally received were £15 per annum. The charge is now £18, which, considering the increased cost of provisions, &c., is barely equal to the £15 of former times.

The Committee respectfully and urgently solicit the annual assistance of all friends who are able to help the Institution by their contributions. They cordially thank the liberal contributors to the Special Fund above referred to, and beg again to remind them and other friends of the School that it is entirely dependent upon the payments of the parents, and upon voluntary subscriptions, there being no endowment of any kind, or any other source of income, with the exception of an Annual Donation from the executors of a deceased friend to which, however, there is no legal claim.

Subscriptions received by Dr. Milnes, London Missionary Society; Rev. Joseph Beasley, 13, Farnham, Blackheath; A. H. Bateman, Esq., Devonshire House, Blackheath, S.E.; or by the Agents of this Paper at the ports of the Far East.

T. W. JACKSON,
COMMISSION AGENT
SAN FRANCISCO

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THE FAMINE IN CHINA.

THE Rev. T. RICHARD, of Chefoo, whose communications have been recently referred to in the columns of *The Times*, writes as follows:—"People of all ages die of actual starvation by thousands. This is no exaggeration. The famine extends over a district which includes at least 5,000 villages, and in those taken together, I am certain within the mark in saying that 800 die daily. Perhaps 1,000 may be within it. A few days ago I traversed the worst part. It is most heartrending. Can anything be done immediately at home? Friends in Chefoo have sent me \$500. Shanghai and other places I have not heard from yet. The first steamer of the Spring is expected north to-day. Perhaps \$1,000 more will be made up. Funds will save lives on to the end of May. It will be only charity after that. If you can do anything telegraph." Under date March 5 Mr. Richard says:—"I draw another £50 to-day, making in all £250. If I die before the year is out let my property here make up the deficiency, so long as I have anything to mortgage. I cannot abide the sight of people dying about me without giving them relief. Thousands upon thousands have perished already. Homes are pulled down in every village to sell the timber and thatch in order to get food. Those who can get husks and dry leaves ordinarily used for fuel are considered well off. Most of the poor young girls have been sold. Old men, middle aged, young men, and children die daily of sheer starvation, and others freeze. The dead cannot get a burial; they are too many, and none can afford the expense, so they are cast daily into large pits. Terrible."

The Committee of the Baptist Missionary Society have, by telegraph, advised Mr. Richard to draw £250 at once, and authorised the payment of a further sum of £250 if urgently needed.

CONTRIBUTIONS in aid of the Famine Relief Fund will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, Joseph Tritton, Esq., 19, Castle-street, Holborn, London, E.C., or by the bankers of the Society, Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, Twells, and Co., 44, Lombard-street.

The following contributions have been received:—

Miss Smart	£7 0 0	T. G. Mead, Esq.	£3 8 0
T. Walker, Esq.	20 0 0	A. G. B. C.	0 10 0
L. M.	1 0 0	Montmorency	2 0 0
A. Gervess	1 0 0	R. Anderson, Esq.	1 0 0
Anonymous	2 0 0	Mrs. H. Alexander	1 0 0
A. S.	1 0 0	Anonymous	3 0 0
B. E. Fletcher, Esq.	1 0 0	W. J. Higgins, Esq.	4 0 0
G. H. Penny, Esq.	0 10 0	John Smith, Esq.	0 10 0
C. O.	0 10 0	W. Osalov, Esq.	1 0 0
F. E. Wait, Esq.	1 0 0	Rev. John Mont-teith	1 0 0
Samaritan	6 0 0	G. Phillips, Esq.	1 0 0
Rev. J. J. Clarke	1 0 0	By Dr. J. Muir, of Edinburgh	
Rev. J. Gould	5 0 0	Dr. J. Muir	£20 0 0
John Heales, Esq.	5 0 0	Miss Muir	5 0 0
W. S. Gibson, Esq.	5 0 0	David McLaren	3 0 0
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Dunstable	4 0 0		

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Remaining, Gentlemen, yours very respectfully,
"L. S."

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"	WILLIAM WILKINS (for Advertisements)
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J. THOMSON, Chairman.

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RESERVED FUNDS, £500,000.

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Incorporated by National Decrees of 7th and 8th of March, 1848, and by Imperial Decrees of 30th July, 18th and 31st December, 1856.

Recognised by the International Convention of 30th April, 1863.

Capital, fully paid up... £3,000,000

Reserved fund... 800,000

£4,000,000

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Glenartney	100 A1	3,104	350	To follow
Glenearn	100 A1	3,130	330	To follow
Glenfulas	100 A1	3,130	330	To follow
Glenlyle	100 A1	1,674	200	To follow
Glenorchy	100 A1	2,788	400	To follow
Glenfalloch	100 A1	3,136	975	To follow

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Abbey Cowper	A 100	699	W.I.	Sailed, Apr. 30
Birchdale	A 100	893	W.I.	May 29
Abbey Town	A 100	702	W.I.	To follow
Vale of Duon	AA1	869	W.I.	To follow
Vale of Nith	AA1	697	W.I.	To follow
Benculutha	A 100	970	W.I.	To follow
Stuart	A 100	890	W.I.	To follow
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Vessel.	Class.	Tonnage.	Doek.	Lastship-ping day.
Wigton	A 100	727	—	Sailed
Edward Barrow	3/8 L.L.L.	958	—	Sailed
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